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Prohibition in Kansas

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PROHIBITION IN KANSAS

BY

William B. Johnson



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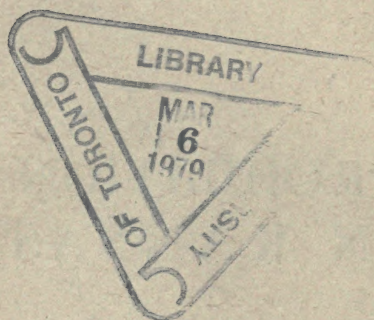
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PROHIBITION IN KANSAS

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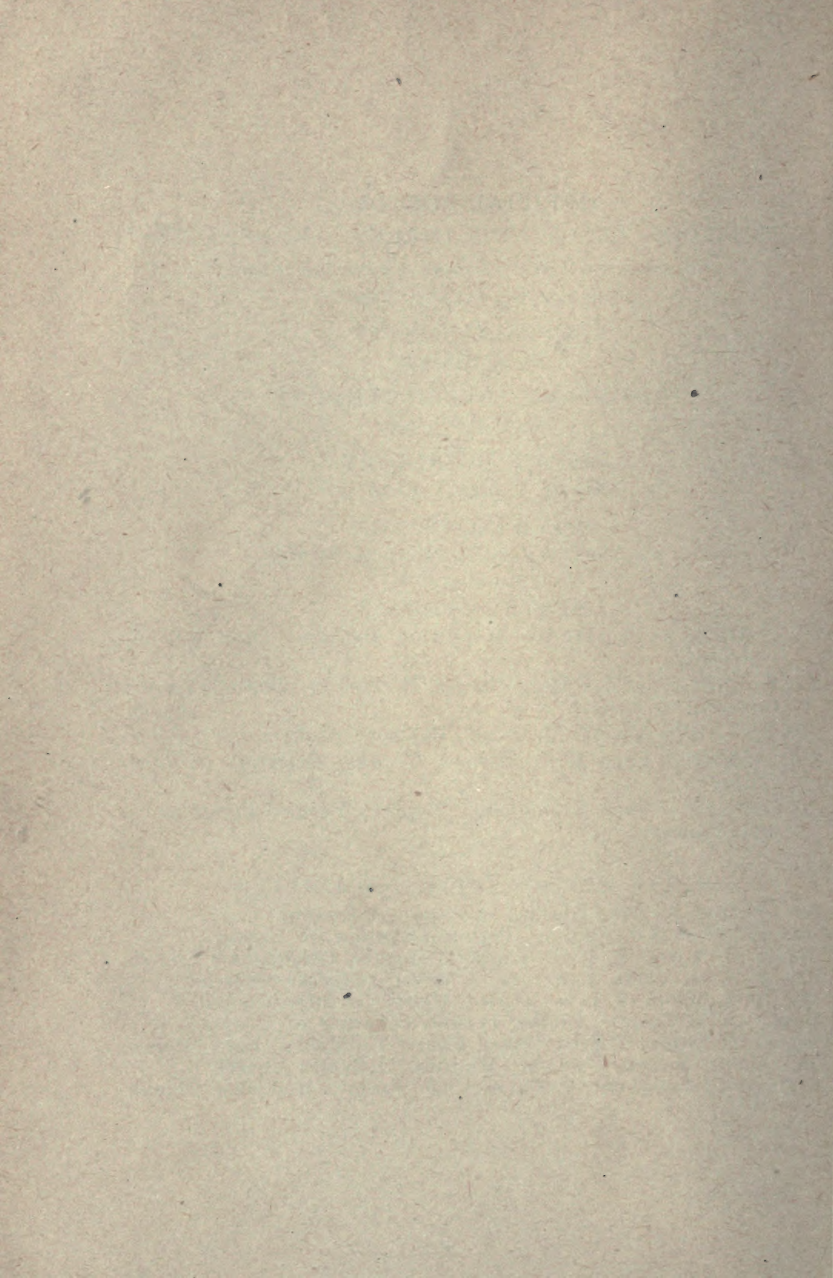
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PROHIBITION IN KANSAS

On April 12, 1912, Attorney General John S. Dawson, of Kansas, in an address in the Auditorium, Chicago, gave this description of the conditions prevailing in Kansas in the old days, under the license system :

Dramshops prevailed throughout the state, from the gilded palaces of sin in the older sections of the east down to the frontier doggeries of Ft. Dodge and Ft. Hays, where you could buy a pint of bad whisky and a whisk broom for a dollar. Tradition has it that a whisk broom was furnished with each pint—the idea being that you could go away to a quiet corner, sweep it off clean, drink your whisky, and then lay down and have your fit.

Much has been written of this uncanny period of Kansas history in which the rule of the saloon was supreme, but the above extract covers it all except in detail. The miserable situation created by the liquor traffic is a matter of history. The liquor traffic rode roughshod over the people, defied the laws for the regulation of saloons, and fought against any and all attempts looking to the establishment of orderly government. It was out of this situation that the demand for complete Prohibition of the destructive traffic arose. This movement took definite shape in 1879. On January 16 of that year, Governor St. John, who was then serving his first term, and who was to be a candidate for re-election, threw down the gauntlet to the liquor interests in his message to the Legislature, in which he said :

If it could be fully accomplished, I am clearly of the opinion that no greater blessing could be conferred by you upon the people of this state than to absolutely and forever prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage. . . . Yet, desiring the passage of no law in relation to the enforcement of which there could be any doubt, and with a view to the adoption of such measures only, as will be backed up and enforced by the moral sentiment of the people, I respectfully call your attention to the first section of what is commonly known as the dramshop act . . . and recommend that said section be amended.

The Governor's recommendations were for a revision of the dramshop act, with stringent regulations and with adequate local option powers to be conferred upon the people. To carry out these recommendations and to combat them, divers bills were introduced by both friends and enemies of the liquor traffic.

THE ISSUE DRAWN IN 1879

With the issue thus drawn, the year 1879 became an historic one in the annals of Kansas. The people trusted St. John, who then talked Prohibition, but, as an expedient, recommended license, and they got in behind his candidacy for re-election.

The "offensive" had rather gotten away from the Kansas State Temperance Society because of its conservative attitude and had passed into the hands of the Good Templars, who openly and aggressively advocated the Prohibition policy. To get in line with the spirit of the times, the Temperance Society was reorganized on a Prohibition basis, its name changed to the Kansas State Temperance Union and St. John was chosen as its president. James A. Trout-

man, who, for some years, was secretary of the grand lodge of Good Templars, was made secretary. Troutman later became Lieutenant Governor of the state and developed into a national figure in the war against the organized liquor traffic.

In the same year the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized with Mrs. M. B. Smith as president, and rapidly achieved wide power and influence. This campaign developed a Kansas saint in Mrs. Drusilla Wilson, a Quakeress preacher, whose efforts in the campaign of 1879 have become a part of Kansas history. Mrs. Wilson, with her husband Jonathan, settled at Lawrence in 1873. She was made president of the Lawrence W. C.-T. U. In November, 1879, she set out in a wagon and traveled continuously until the evening of election the following year. She was then 64 years old. In that campaign she traveled more than 3,000 miles in her wagon, speaking, talking, pleading. She visited chiefly the smaller towns, but what a power she developed! This kindly old woman for the time abandoned home and ease and comfort that she might bring these things into other Kansas homes. She was sweetly persuasive, eloquent, smiling and persistent. Kansas has placed a halo around the memory of Mrs. Drusilla Wilson, the heroine of 1879.

Outside helpers took a part in the game. Frances E. Willard, Amanda Way, J. Ellen Foster and Col. George W. Bain toured the state and did much good. A delegation of Indians came up from the Indian Territory and made speeches pleading with the people to clean the saloons out of the state for the benefit of its Indians as well as the white people.

The liquor men worked under an alias, organizing what they called "The People's Grand Protective Union," the forerunner of a long line of similar fakes organized for each new campaign and as the old one was exposed was hooted out of business. They declared the proposed Prohibition law to be "bogus," because it exempted from its operations wines for the sacrament and spirits for industrial purposes. The Topeka Journal, edited by George W. Reed, became the organ of the liquor interests just as the Topeka Capital, edited by Major J. K. Hudson, championed the dry policy.

J. R. Detweiler, Grand Chief Templar of the Good Templar order and editor of the Temperance Banner, was the militant general of the dry forces. He wrote the campaign pamphlets, each one of which was as dynamite on the saloon camps. He spoke everywhere. Through the subordinate lodges of his order, he worked up an enormous petition to the Legislature demanding the submission of a Prohibition amendment. It was he who went to Judge N. C. McFarland of Topeka and arranged with him to draft the constitutional amendment which was introduced into the Senate on February 8, 1879, three weeks after the high license option law had been recommended by Governor St. John, who really was in favor of Prohibition ultimately. It was Judge McFarland who framed the amendment which was finally adopted. McFarland later became president of the Kansas State Temperance Union and still later was Secretary of the Interior. Judge McFarland's amendment merely

provided that "The manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors shall be forever prohibited in this state, except for medical, scientific and mechanical purposes."

Senator John T. Broady introduced the amendment to the dramshop law proposed by Governor St. John. It was these amendments which the temperance people really expected to pass. It was here that the liquor men made a tactical blunder of the first magnitude. With the intent of using the Prohibition bill as a club with which to destroy the St. John amendments to the dramshop law, the liquor men in the Senate actually promoted the McFarland amendment introduced by Senator Hamlin. Instead of thereby splitting up the drys as they hoped by this Teutonic trick, the drys voted with the wets in the Senate roll call and the measure was adopted unanimously. To the chagrin of the liquor men, the St. John forces in the House abandoned their proposed amendments to the dramshop law and mustered every influence in their power in support of the Prohibition amendment. The wets saw their mistake too late. The bill went to the House, where it was passed on March 5, 1879.

THE WOMAN IN THE CASE

Of course, there was a "woman in it." A woman always enters into every acute, dramatic situation in Kansas, contributing color and pathos. It was midnight when the amendment was on final roll call in the House and about forty people in the galleries were keeping a "tally." It appeared that one vote was lacking, when there was a stir. A woman rushed from the gallery to the lobby, the wife of Senator Greever, of Emporia, a Democratic Senator who had just voted "no." "My dear husband, for my sake, for God's sake, change your vote," she pleaded, catching him by the arm. He succumbed. With tears streaming from his eyes, he hurried to the floor just as the clerk was completing the count. "Mr. Clerk, change my vote to Yea," he simply said, and sat down. That decided the issue. Senator Greever voted for his wife and his state but against his party. Others then changed their votes so that the final roll call stood, yeas, 88; noes, 31; absent, 10.

The contest for the adoption of the amendment at the hands of the people was led by Rev. A. M. Richardson of Lawrence, who had much to do with the formation of the State Temperance Union and who was later prominent in the councils of the Prohibition party. The campaign for the liquor men was managed by Charles Robinson, who had the distinction of being the first Governor of the state. He belonged to the conservative element of the abolition movement and was involved in all sorts of political broils of his day. He was not a bad man but not a strong one. The liquor men had plenty of money and spent it freely. The Prohibitionists had but little money, yet they won by a vote of 92,302 for the amendment to 84,304 against it. The Legislature promptly enacted a Prohibition law which went into effect on May 1, 1881.

THE POLITICAL AFTERMATH

There followed a quarter of a century of struggles over the proper enforcement of the law before it was completely established

in every part of the state. The contest began with a political reverse to the dry cause in the defeat of Governor St. John for re-election for the third term as Governor. The liquor men made a desperate effort to accomplish his defeat, naturally. But their efforts without other political complications would not have been successful. Enough dry votes were cast for the dry Greenback candidate alone to accomplish St. John's defeat. The following tabulation shows how the wet victory was only a temporary one and how the dry candidates became progressively stronger at the polls in later elections:

1882		
Nominee	Party	Popular Vote
St. John (dry)	Republican	75,158
Glick (wet)	Democrat	83,237
Robinson (dry)	Greenback	20,933
1884		
Martin (dry)	Republican	146,777
Glick (wet)	Democrat	108,284
Phillips (dry)	Greenback	9,998
1886		
Martin (dry)	Republican	149,615
Moonlight (wet)	Democrat	115,697
Branscom (dry)	Prohibition	8,094
1888		
Humphrey (dry)	Republican	180,841
Martin (wet)	Democrat	107,480
Elder (dry)	United Labor	35,837
Bodkin (dry)	Prohibition	6,439

It is not the purpose to here recite the details of the struggle for law enforcement in Kansas. In nearly every part of the state, there never has been any trouble about this matter. The best that the combined liquor forces of the nation could do would be to make ducks and drakes of the law in certain large urban centers. But during the last fifteen years they have not been able to do this anywhere. There has not been a wet Governor elected since the days of George W. Glick, though some of them have been weak and inefficient. There has not been a wet Congressman elected for more than a decade. A dozen years ago, even the Democratic party of the state came out for Prohibition and has since stoutly championed that policy. There is now not a political party nor a reputable organization of the state that is not committed absolutely to the dry cause. A champion of the licensed saloon in Kansas now has no more standing than would a champion of horse stealing, slavery, gambling or polygamy. Kansas from top to bottom and from end to end is now as wholly committed to the Prohibition of the liquor traffic as it is committed against arson and counterfeiting.

The Legislature of 1917 foreclosed all further attempts to disturb the popular mind regarding the liquor issue by enacting

a very stringent bone dry law, the provisions of which, in part, are: It is made unlawful to keep or have in possession for personal use or otherwise any intoxicating liquors or permit another to have or keep or use intoxicating liquors. Second, it shall be unlawful for any common carrier or any other person, for hire or without hire, to bring or carry into the state, or carry from one place to another within the state, intoxicating liquors for another or for herself or himself. Third, it shall be unlawful for any person to receive, directly or indirectly, intoxicating liquors from a common carrier or other carrier or person, and it shall also be unlawful for any person to possess intoxicating liquors received directly or indirectly from a common carrier or other carrier or person. This section shall be applied to such liquors intended for personal use.

The Financial Side of Kansas

Kansas is primarily an agricultural state. With the exception of a little oil in the southern part and some lead and zinc in the southeastern part, there come no riches from the bowels of the earth; no fish from the sea. There is no timber, and there are no navigable rivers. Such a state cannot and does not build large cities and manufacturing establishments. Aside from the flocks and herds, the plow is the one weapon with which the people extort sustenance from the willing soil.

In the old days, when the drouth and the grasshoppers came and ate up everything except the mortgages, there was nothing for the herds which had to be sacrificed, and nothing for the granaries. The village saloon would scoop up the people's savings and send the money out of the state with which to buy liquor so that the settlers could drown their misery therein. Hunger would become supreme in such emergencies; the people in the east would be called upon to take up collections for "bleeding Kansas," that the people there might not actually starve.

But the adventurous blood that went from the east to rescue liberty on the frontier in the border wars was of the same red variety that planted religious freedom from Plymouth Rock. It is the spirit that will tackle the saloon plague with the same vigor and intelligence that leads it to combat grasshoppers or anything else that gets in the way of civilization.

By an intelligent manipulation of the soil, through the development of dry farming and other scientific means, the scourge of drouth has been practically eliminated. Likewise, the grasshoppers succumbed to scientific argument. Then the saloon plague was evicted from Kansas borders. There was some wandering in the wilderness before the promised land of complete enforcement was secured in every part of the state, but that goal was reached many years ago. Failing in nullification, the liquor interests in other states indulged in lusty and ornate lying about the effect of Prohibition in Kansas, particularly as to penal and financial conditions. The purpose of this chapter is to deal with the financial record of the state.

THE MATTER OF TAXATION

The people who pay no taxes are the ones who do most of the howling about taxation alleged to be caused by the abolition of the saloon. The people of Kansas had no complaint to make about taxes being caused by Prohibition. The records show that they had no reason for making any adverse clamor.

Below is given the complete, official record of the state, from its formation in 1861, as to assessed valuation, total state levies and the tax rate. The record is taken directly from the reports of the state treasurer. An examination of this table develops the following facts:

During the license period, 1861-1880, the average tax rate was 6.51 mills. The average tax rate for the Prohibition period, 1881-1917, was only 3.69 mills, a little more than one-half that of the license record. And in this period the people paid off more than a million dollars of bonded debts that had accumulated under license, built a large number of public buildings, constructed roads and bridges in great numbers, accumulated nearly ten million surplus dollars of which it has invested in school bonds and, at the same time, now carries cash balances in 76 different Kansas banks large enough to earn the state about \$43,000 per year in interest of said balances. All these properties, securities and cash has been accumulated under the dry policy.

The following table shows the assessed valuation, the total state tax levy and the state tax rate for each year since the formation of the state in 1861. Prohibition went into effect May 1, 1881:

	Assessed Valuation	Total State Levy	Tax Rate
1861.....	\$ 24,737,563.09	\$ 74,233.53	4.00
1862.....	19,285,749.00	115,737.07	8.00
1863.....	25,460,499.00	152,762.82	7.00
1864.....	30,502,791.26	182,584.65	7.00
1865.....	36,120,945.20	216,756.79	7.00
1866.....	50,439,644.96	252,200.86	6.00
1867.....	56,276,360.00	281,381.80	6.00
1868.....	66,949,949.88	435,407.73	6.50
1869.....	76,383,697.22	763,836.97	10.00
1870.....	92,528,099.83	809,620.80	8.75
1871.....	108,753,575.48	625,521.34	6.00
1872.....	127,690,937.13	1,085,372.95	8.50
1873.....	125,684,176.67	754,105.04	6.00
1874.....	128,906,519.80	733,438.72	6.00
1875.....	121,544,344.07	729,265.72	6.00
1876.....	133,832,316.35	736,077.73	5.50
1877.....	137,480,529.83	756,137.91	5.50
1878.....	138,698,810.98	762,843.39	5.50
1879.....	144,930,279.69	942,046.48	5.50
1880.....	160,570,761.43	883,139.06	5.50
1881.....	170,813,373.03	854,066.43	5.00
1882.....	186,128,138.85	837,576.43	4.50
1883.....	203,184,489.35	873,693.19	4.30
1884.....	237,020,391.27	1,066,591.74	4.50
1885.....	248,846,811.28	1,032,714.17	4.15
1886.....	277,113,323.34	1,136,134.39	4.10
1887.....	310,871,446.64	1,274,572.92	4.10
1888.....	353,248,332.93	1,448,318.18	4.10
1889.....	360,815,073.49	1,515,423.27	4.20
1890.....	348,459,943.69	1,480,954.94	4.25
1891.....	342,632,407.21	1,353,398.00	3.95
1892.....	342,682,845.52	1,336,371.46	3.90
1893.....	356,621,818.00	1,358,059.58	3.80
1894.....	337,501,722.00	1,316,257.65	3.90
1895.....	329,939,031.08	1,402,240.38	4.25
1896.....	321,216,938.00	1,365,170.61	4.25
1897.....	325,370,232.00	1,333,954.00	4.10
1898.....	325,889,747.00	1,346,126.00	4.10
1899.....	327,165,530.00	1,799,409.15	5.50
1900.....	328,729,008.00	1,807,898.00	5.50
1901.....	363,156,045.00	1,997,304.00	5.50
1902.....	363,163,630.00	1,997,354.00	5.50
1903.....	387,577,259.00	2,480,459.00	6.40

1904.....	378,335,401.00	1,967,346.00	5.20
1905.....	387,553,348.00	2,209,002.00	5.70
1906.....	408,329,749.00	1,919,096.00	4.70
1907.....	436,454,948.00	2,749,613.00	6.20
1908.....	2,453,691,859.00	2,208,322.66	.90
1909.....	2,511,260,285.26	3,139,074.99	1.25
1910.....	2,752,107,678.00	2,889,712.60	1.05
1911.....	2,777,054,317.00	3,332,465.18	1.20
1912.....	2,746,885,505.00	3,296,262.61	1.20
1913.....	2,809,901,434.00	3,371,761.71	1.20
1914.....	2,804,789,903.00	3,365,747.88	1.20
1915.....	2,884,624,600.00	3,605,787.00	1.25
1916.....	2,980,902,467.00	3,875,174.00	1.30
1917.....	3,075,385,183.00	4,459,307.00	1.45

Just to rub this record in a bit, let us summarize a few items:

Average state tax rate under license 6.51 mills

Average state tax rate under Prohibition 3.69 mills

The average tax rate has decreased to nearly half the average prevailing rate under license. The present rate is less than one-third of the rate of the last license year.

Average annual increase in assessed valuation of the state during the license regime\$16,136,119.00

Average annual increase in assessed valuation of the state during the Prohibition years\$78,528,994.00

Taking the record of the state as a whole, the average annual increase in the assessed valuation of the state, under Prohibition, has been almost five times as much as it was during the license regime.

These are the reasons why brewery barkers long since quit talking about taxation within 500 miles of Kansas.

WHAT BECAME OF THE STATE DEBT?

The last year of the license regime left the state with a bonded debt of more than a million dollars, which debt was paid off as the bonds matured under Prohibition, and no new bonds were issued by the state except some temporary bonds issued in 1900 to pay for the installation of a binding twine plant in the penitentiary. The following is a tabulation of the condition of the bonded debt year by year from 1880 until they were paid off:

Year	Bonded Debt	Sinking Fund	Year	Bonded Debt	Sinking Fund
1880.....	\$1,181,975	\$94,275	1898.....	632,000	.....
1881.....	1,181,975	95,525	1900.....	692,000	.....
1883.....	935,500	61,000	1902.....	632,000	.....
1885.....	847,500	21,000	1908.....	623,000	.....
1887.....	815,000	12,000	1910.....	529,000	.....
1890.....	801,000	.....	1916.....	159,000	.....
1896.....	752,000	.....			

On January 1, 1916, the balance of these bonds were paid off and the bonds burned in a ceremonial gathering in the state capitol in which Governor Capper made an historical address. The

bonded debt of the state thus became a matter of history like the border wars, the drouth, chinch bugs, grasshoppers and the saloons.

ENORMOUS GROWTH OF KANSAS BANKS

For years eastern liquor brewery managers have systematically juggled Kansas banking statistics and have habitually lied about Kansas banking conditions. The people of Kansas have systematically put their savings in the regular banks or in savings departments of these regular banks or in building and loan associations. Because of this habit on the part of the people, the state has never had occasion to enact any adequate special savings bank laws. Because of this condition, there are no complete statistics of the savings of the people in the particular form of "savings banks." The liquor publicists will take these partial statistics of deposits in Kansas "savings banks," represent that it comprises all of the savings of the people and then compare such statistics with savings bank statistics of a state in which practically all of the savings of the people go into savings banks.

As to national bank statistics for Kansas, there are no available statistics of value prior to 1864. The accompanying table gives the deposits and also the total assets of all national banks from 1864 to 1916 inclusive. From this table the following facts appear:

Year	Deposits	Total Assets
1864	\$ 96,000	\$ 279,000
1880	2,548,000	4,999,000
1916	96,429,000	158,460,000

Average annual increase in national bank deposits during the license period \$ 144,325

Average annual increase in national bank deposits during the Prohibition period \$4,401,666

In other words, the average annual increase in deposits during the Prohibition regime have been more than thirty times as great as during the license regime.

The liquor men can talk until they are black in the face and they cannot get away from that recorded fact.

Now, as to state banks. Prior to the formation of the state banking department in 1891, the state banks were conducted without any state supervision except, when one became too crooked, it attracted the official attention of the attorney general and the grand jury. There are, therefore, no available statistics of deposits in state banks of Kansas prior to the year 1891. The accompanying table gives the deposits in state banks at the time of the first "call" made upon them in each year since the formation of the banking department.

One more explanation of the table on bank deposits is necessary. Section 27, Chapter 78, of the Session Laws in 1899, placed all building and loan associations in Kansas under the control of the state banking department. After 1899 the statistics of resources of building and loan associations are not included in

the general table given below. However, on September 1, 1916, there were 57,000 members of these associations which had 23,000 outstanding loans and combined assets of \$22,000,000.

In 1899 the total resources of the Kansas building and loan associations was only \$2,880,764.

The following table gives the statistical record of Kansas national and state banks in detail, so far as such statistics are available.

RECORD OF KANSAS STATE AND NATIONAL BANKS

Year	—National Banks—		--State and Pvt. Banks--	
	Deposits	Total Assets	Date of Call	Total Dep.
1864.....	\$ 96,000	\$ 279,000	.....	.....
1865.....	*2,479,000	2,910,000	.....	.....
1866.....	442,000	1,470,000	.....	.....
1867.....	533,000	1,948,000	.....	.....
1868.....	790,000	2,149,000	.....	.....
1869.....	667,000	2,102,000	.....	.....
1870.....	748,000	2,257,000	.....	.....
1871.....	1,288,000	3,632,000	.....	.....
1872.....	2,458,000	6,540,000	.....	.....
1873.....	2,589,000	7,304,000	.....	.....
1874.....	2,215,000	6,304,000	.....	.....
1875.....	2,039,000	5,412,000	.....	.....
1876.....	1,994,000	5,048,000	.....	.....
1877.....	2,111,000	4,728,000	.....	.....
1878.....	1,579,000	3,654,000	.....	.....
1879.....	2,138,000	4,439,000	.....	.....
1880.....	2,548,000	4,999,000	.....	.....
1881.....	3,239,000	5,872,000	.....	.....
1882.....	4,211,000	7,405,000	.....	.....
1883.....	6,994,000	11,865,000	.....	.....
1884.....	8,362,000	15,498,000	.....	.....
1885.....	10,090,000	18,818,000	.....	.....
1886.....	12,591,000	24,303,000	.....	.....
1887.....	17,741,000	34,948,000	.....	.....
1888.....	17,465,000	38,277,000	.....	.....
1889.....	18,838,000	39,859,000	.....	.....
1890.....	20,685,000	42,974,000	.....	.....
1891.....	19,042,000	39,554,000	Oct. 13	\$ 15,773,438
1892.....	21,665,000	41,230,000	Jan. 2	17,377,977
1893.....	16,683,000	35,266,000	Jan. 3	21,139,913
1894.....	17,540,000	34,546,000	Jan. 10	15,427,493
1895.....	16,827,000	32,898,000	Jan. 10	17,112,465
1896.....	15,585,000	31,297,000	Feb. 28	15,526,831
1897.....	19,188,000	34,718,000	Mar. 9	15,975,501
1898.....	22,453,000	37,821,000	Apr. 5	22,318,164
1899.....	24,306,000	40,431,000	Mar. 18	23,041,693
1900.....	29,195,000	49,155,000	Feb. 13	27,125,274
1901.....	35,361,000	60,843,000	Feb. 9	33,760,872
1902.....	37,379,000	62,343,000	Mar. 28	39,830,429
1903.....	42,482,000	70,975,000	Mar. 14	44,658,968
1904.....	47,683,000	80,752,000	Mar. 14	51,280,291
1905.....	50,236,000	84,156,000	Jan. 11	51,554,507
1906.....	58,268,000	96,416,000	Jan. 29	62,342,658
1907.....	64,978,000	110,474,000	Jan. 26	71,773,424
1908.....	63,059,000	114,283,000	Mar. 31	76,716,457
1909.....	67,721,000	118,323,000	Mar. 16	93,121,287
1910.....	67,846,000	116,797,000	Apr. 1	102,667,040
1911.....	63,986,000	107,844,000	Mar. 16	96,254,685
1912.....	67,753,000	114,443,000	Apr. 2	102,128,200
1913.....	70,569,000	120,583,000	Mar. 11	113,742,844
1914.....	69,402,000	118,666,000	Mar. 9	107,960,201

1915.....	79,631,000	128,381,000	Feb. 20	128,344,062
1916.....	96,429,000	158,460,000	Mar. 24	141,714,072
1917.....	.....	.....	June 6	202,131,544
1918.....	.....	.....	May 8	236,514,246

*I do not know the reason for this apparent discrepancy, but it is the official record of the Comptroller of the Currency.

GROWTH OF FIRE INSURANCE

The growth of fire insurance written is a barometer to building operations. The land cannot burn; only buildings and timber can and there is no timber in Kansas. A report on the insurance record of Kansas shows these facts:

Average amount of fire insurance written annually during the license period \$ 688,525

Average amount of fire insurance written annually during the Prohibition period \$15,003,321

In other words, the average amount of fire insurance written in Kansas annually during the Prohibition period was nearly 22 times as much as the annual amount written during the license period.

BUILT ROADS INSTEAD OF Grog SHOPS

Besides building schools, public institutions, buying bonds and collecting upward of \$43,000 interest annually on surplus funds deposited in Kansas banks and belonging to the state, Kansas has taken the lead of the whole country in constructing state roads. In area Kansas is about the average of the states, yet she went far ahead of every state in the Union in the construction of state roads with the single exception of the empire state of Texas. Up to the year 1914, the last year that statistics are available for all of the states, she had outstripped the nation in this enterprise with this one exception. Her nearest competitor was the neighboring Prohibition state of Oklahoma. Kansas has 111,052 miles to her credit.

AN EPIDEMIC OF AUTOMOBILES

And then the people began buying automobiles galore. The bare statistics of the automobile population for recent years is illuminating and suggestive. There came a veritable epidemic of automobiles instead of grasshoppers. The following, taken from the records of the automobile department of the secretary of state's office, bears eloquent testimony to the buying power of the people of Kansas, liberated from the obligation of supporting a horde of expensive saloons:

Year Ending June 30	Automobiles	Year Ending June 30	Automobiles
1914.....	39,889	1917.....	139,956
1915.....	59,486	1918*.....	181,524
1916.....	89,223		

*May 21.

"BLEEDING KANSAS"

This is the story of "bleeding Kansas"—afflicted with border wars, with drouths, with grasshoppers, with resources limited to

agriculture, but with the vision constantly in mind of human justice. Pitted against the slave power of the nation, she picked up the gauntlet and won. For a quarter of a century she was warred against by the alcoholic oppression of the whole country—and won again. In the 90's she met the "populist" uprising by abolishing the wrongs complained of and promptly conceding all the proposed reforms worth while.

This record will be the answer writ down in history. There is no ultimate escape from the truth.

Crime in Kansas

Kansas was born in a hotbed of crime and violence; in the "Border wars," nursed in famine, followed by swarms of locusts that hid the sun. Never did a state begin its existence under such unhappy conditions. But because, in prohibiting the liquor traffic she pioneered the way in the Great West, she became the target against which eastern liquor publicists drove their principal javelins. In these, the criminal statistics of the state have been the principal objects of attack.

By taking the Federal Census statistics of crime and by selecting comparisons between different states that follow different policies as to penal matters, most any old thing can be proven. Some states will send a man to the penitentiary for a given crime while some other state might send the same offender to jail or to the workhouse. Such and other similar variances provide the opportunity to the statistical mountebank to do his worst.

In still another way a special situation in Kansas affords a special field for this sort of literary rascality. For many years, off and on, the state penitentiary of Kansas was utilized as a sort of a penal boarding house for other states and for federal prisoners who came from without the state. Hundreds of prisoners from Oklahoma and New Mexico were kept there on contract for years and hundreds of federal prisoners from other states. All these entered into the "Kansas penitentiary statistics" and thus were used to give Kansas a black eye.

Other conditions contribute in some degree to the population of the penitentiary which conditions do not appear in other states. Kansas does not practice capital punishment for any crime. Life imprisonment is used instead. The statistics for "hangings" therefore are nil but there is a corresponding increase in accumulated life terms which help swell the statistics. There are also several laws of the state which are penal in their character and which, in other states, merely draw a jail sentence. The wife and family desertion law provides for a term in the penitentiary not exceeding two years. Stealing domestic fowls in the night time is a felony. The second conviction of any offense against the intoxicating liquor laws is a felony. Many offenses under the law relating to gambling are punished by confinement in the penitentiary. The crime of rape in Kansas is different from that which is defined as rape in many other states, the age limit being 18 years. The white slave law makes many acts under this subject felonies, which are not felonies in many other states.

If, however, one cares to take a little time and will expend as much time in finding the facts as quacks take in faking up a case, the real story is not difficult to find. The following table for census years, giving the population for each year and the

number of state prisoners in the state penitentiary, tells a story different from that commonly put out from Cincinnati by the Publicity Bureau of the National Wholesale Liquor Dealers' Association:

POPULATION AND PENITENTIARY PRISONERS OF KANSAS

Year	Population	Peniten. Prisoners	
		Prisoners	Per 100,000 Pop.
1860.....	107,204	*32	29
1870.....	364,399	209	57
1880.....	996,096	725	72
1890.....	1,427,096	911	64
1900.....	1,470,496	1,025	69
1910.....	1,672,545	890	52
1916.....	†1,840,707	841	45

* Year 1862.

† Official state estimate.

The year 1860 was the last year of the territorial regime just as the year 1880 was the last year of the license regime. This record thus shows that the number of penal convicts in Kansas, per 100,000 population, more than doubled in the license period of two decades ending with 1880. On the other hand, under the Prohibition policy, the trend has been downward until the rate is not much more than one-half what was on the last year of the license policy. But to be more specific and exact, the entire penitentiary record is given since 1862, so far as such statistics are available. During the years 1862-1863, the state convicts were temporarily confined in the county jail at Leavenworth.

KANSAS PENITENTIARY RECORD SINCE 1862

Year	Date of Official Enumeration	State Convicts	Year	Date of Official Enumeration	State Convicts
1862.....	Not given	32	1890.....	June 30	911
1863.....	Not given	33	1892.....	July 1	942
1866.....	Nov. 30	90	1893.....	July 1	831
1867.....	Nov. 30	126	1894.....	July 1	920
1870.....	Nov. 30	209	1895.....	Daily average	916
1871.....	Nov. 30	303	1896.....	June 30	891
1872.....	Nov. 30	333	1897.....	June 30	900
1873.....	Nov. 30	340	1898.....	June 30	943
1874.....	Nov. 30	425	1899.....	June 30	940
1875.....	Nov. 30	344	1900.....	June 30	1,025
1876.....	Nov. 30	351	1902.....	July 1	1,089
1878.....	June 30	500	1904.....	July 1	1,180
1880.....	Dec. 3	725	1906.....	July 1	1,202
1881.....	Daily average	690	1908.....	July 1	1,314
1882.....	Daily average	655	1910.....	July 1	890
1883.....	April 9	644	1912.....	July 1	909
1884.....	July 1	751	1914.....	July 1	793
1885.....	July 1	840	1916.....	July 1	841
1887.....	June 30	978	1917.....	July 1	765
1888.....	June 30	929	1918.....	July 1	602
1889.....	June 30	884			

It only needs a casual reference to the above tables, by tak-

ing figures here and there to see how easy it is for an unscrupulous publicist to "prove" anything that he wishes to appear.

BEFORE AND AFTER TAKING

State-wide Prohibition went into effect in Kansas on May 1, 1881. As indicating the immediate effect that the change had on crime in the state, an extract from the last report of the warden of the penitentiary under license and the first report after Prohibition came into effect is illuminating. In his report for 1879-80, Warden Henry Hopkins said:

I desire to call attention to the rapid increase of our prison population in the past few years. Crime has apparently increased much more rapidly than has the population of the country. This is not only true of this, but equally true of other states; and if this is true, what are the influences that have brought this about? The increase in prison population in a few of the state prisons is as follows:

Illinois has increased from 1,300 in 1873 to 1,900 in 1878.

Missouri has increased from 841 in 1873 to 1,300 in 1878.

Indiana has increased from 751 in 1873 to 1,100 in 1879.

Ohio has increased from 867 in 1873 to 1,578 in 1878.

Iowa has increased from 276 in 1873 to 533 in 1879.

Kansas has increased from 333 in 1873 to 691 in 1880.

Nebraska has increased from 39 in 1873 to 128 in 1878.

The population of these states has not increased in the same proportion as have the criminals.

In his biennial report for the period ending June 30, 1882, the first report after the adoption of state Prohibition, Warden Hopkins had a different story to tell. He said:

We have received innumerable inquiries from all sections of our state, as well as from a large number of prominent men throughout the country, as to what effect the prohibitory law has had in decreasing crime, and the number of criminals received into the state prison, and in response we have uniformly replied that, so far as the effect in reducing crime, all the information we could gather from the different counties, through the sheriffs and other sources, was, that especially of the lesser crimes there was a very marked decrease since the law went into effect, and that so far as it affected the population of the penitentiary, there has been a falling off in the average receipts since December, 1880, from some cause, and it is only reasonable to suppose that less drunkenness had something to do with that decrease. A very large majority of criminals are addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors, and it is an indisputable fact that men are more likely to and do commit the more heinous crimes while under that influence, than when in their right minds.

In regard to the increase in our prison population, the records show a steady increase from 83 convicts, March 12, 1867, to 725 on December, 1880. From that date to the close of the fiscal year (June 30, 1882), the number received has steadily decreased, and the number at this date is 687. If the average increase had continued since December, 1880, to the present time, the population would be near 800. The daily average of convicts during 1881 was 690 and, during 1882, 655. While it is not reasonable to expect that any very marked influence from Prohibition can be anticipated at present, in reducing the prison population, yet it will decrease the causes which led to the commission of crimes of all kinds.

CRIME STILL ON THE DOWN GRADE

And from the time of Warden Hopkins, the penitentiary record of Kansas has been substantially the same. There have been some ups and downs, but the ratio of convicts to the population has shown a healthy and substantial decrease. As late as November 14, 1917, the present warden, J. K. Codding, wrote to the superintendent of the Kansas Anti-Saloon League as follows:

The adoption and maintenance of Prohibition in Kansas has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of the state. It has reduced crime and pauperism, established prosperity instead of poverty, and has made Kansas the cleanest commonwealth in the world.

A VOICE FROM THE REFORMATORY

J. N. Herr, superintendent of the Kansas State Reformatory at Hutchins, wrote:

I can conceive but one reply to that question. I have for four years been in a splendid position to observe the operation of the prohibitory law, and even if prejudiced against the law, I would be compelled to make an emphatic affirmative answer to your question. If all states had as good moral laws as Kansas, the State Industrial Reformatory would be called upon to care for less than half the number of inmates it is now caring for.

An average of three-fifths of the inmates of this institution are people whose homes are outside of the state of Kansas, and in the vast majority of these non-citizen cases, liquor is either the direct or contributing cause to their downfall.

ACTION OF PEACE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

The record has been made and any official in Kansas who has to do with criminal matters will tell the same story. In this connection, the following from the Kansas State Peace Officers' Association is eloquent:

Topeka, Kansas, Dec. 9, 1917.

Mr. W. J. Herwig, Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:—At the December meeting of our association at Independence, Kansas, on the 3rd inst., Mr. Emmett Gregg, president, called for a vote upon the following:

Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas?

A unanimous vote in the affirmative was cast, and I was directed, as secretary, to communicate the information to you.

Your very truly,

Hugh Larimer, Secretary.

Under date of December 1, 1917, in a letter to W. J. Herwig of the Anti-Saloon League, the same record is further set forth in these words:

Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests in Kansas in that it has reduced the consumption of intoxicating liquors and thereby greatly reduced crime in the state. Since the prohibitory law has been enforced, the criminal costs incurred in counties in this state in the prosecution of cases has decreased greatly. It has reduced drunkenness and the money that would be spent for intoxicating liquors is now, to a great extent, spent for the necessities of life. Since the bone-dry law became effective, the sale of intoxicating liquors has greatly fallen off, and the enforcement of the law has become a comparatively easy matter, and this reduction in the consumption of intoxicating liquors has resulted in a great reduction of crime, particularly petty crimes that are heard in the police courts.

Kansas Sheriffs on Prohibition

To ascertain a wide, authoritative opinion on the effect of Prohibition on crime in Kansas, W. J. Herwig, late in 1917, addressed each of the sheriffs of the state the following: "For use in a compendium on 'Prohibition in Kansas,' which we have in preparation, would you be so kind as to summarize for us in a few brief sentences your judgment as to the effect that this dry policy has had upon property values, industry, crime and drunkenness in your section."

Of the 25 replies received to this inquiry, every one was strongly favorable to the dry law and especially to the stringent bone dry law recently enacted by the Legislature. The following are ALL of the replies received, arranged by counties in alphabetical order:

CRIME ON THE DECLINE

BOURBON COUNTY, *J. W. Hartman, Sheriff, Ft. Scott:* I have been in the sheriff's office seven years and crime has been on the decline with booze all this time. Every time a law is passed making the liquor traffic more stringent, you can always notice crime will close down a little tighter. We hardly ever see a drunkard on our streets any more; if we do it is some old guy that got the habit in saloon days. But thank God they will all soon be gone.

A "GRAND SUCCESS"

BROWN COUNTY, *C. W. Biddle, Sheriff, Hiawatha:* I want to say that Prohibition in Kansas is a grand success, the Prohibition law of the State of Kansas actually prohibits, and we absolutely have less drunkenness and crime than our sister states, Nebraska and Missouri. I know from where I speak, as I am in a position to see and learn. Kansas has been troubled some by having two wet boundaries—Nebraska and Missouri—but, thank the good people of Nebraska, they blowed up the wet element last election, which will make us three dry boundaries, with Missouri going dry slowly but surely. I am for nationwide Prohibition, and I am thankful that Kansas has two good senators that have the backbone to fight the everlasting curse, liquor.

NO DRUNK FOR A YEAR

CHASE COUNTY, *June B Smith, Sheriff, Cottonwood Falls:* In my judgment there is no question but that Prohibition has greatly increased the property values of this community. This has been so gradual that it is impossible for me to say to what extent. There has not been an arrest in this county for drunkenness in the past year, and the only crime that I know of caused by liquor is bootlegging. I don't know of a business man, whether he is a total abstainer or not, that does not favor Prohibition, to say nothing of the moral and social benefit.

DRY POLICY FAR AHEAD

CHEYENNE COUNTY, *R. D. Hawley, Sheriff, Saint Francis*: In my judgment, Cheyenne county, even though it does adjoin Missouri and Colorado, which states have been wet until recently, is ten years ahead in development, and for morality and industry there is no comparison. I settled in North Phillip county, Kansas, in 1876, with my parents and have lived a good portion of my life on the border of Kansas and Nebraska and have noticed the difference all along.

A "WONDERFUL EFFECT"

CLARK COUNTY, *Charles W. Watts, Sheriff, Ashland*: It is with pleasure to me to answer your letter in regard to the bone-dry law and the wonderful effect that Prohibition has made on our country here in Clark county. Its effect on property values has advanced to a great help. The people as a whole have been wonderfully benefited by this great step we have taken as to statewide Prohibition. We officers have had very little to do in this part of the state on the account of booze. The old drunks that could not do without their booze have left the country; others have reformed and are good citizens. In fact, I am at a loss for words to express our appreciation in this matter, but it is sure great, and is a great relief to one and all. I have had just one arrest for drunkenness since the bone-dry law has been in effect.

DRUNKENNESS DIMINISHED 90 PER CENT

COWLEY COUNTY, *B. R. Day, Sheriff, Winfield*: First, we can see a decided difference in the suppression of crime since the bone-dry law went into effect. Second, it has no bad effect on property values in any way, while on the other hand I believe it has been a benefit in our county, as values have been steadily on the increase. Third, drunkenness has been diminished at least 90 per cent.

HASKELL COUNTY, *John M. Brick, Sheriff, Santa Fe*: I think the bone-dry law is one of the best laws we have in the state.

CRIME AND DRUNKENNESS DIMINISHED THREE-FOURTHS

JOHNSON COUNTY, *E. W. O'Brien, Sheriff*: Will say that property values are as good or better than they ever were before the dry law went into effect. Crime and drunkenness have certainly diminished three-fourths in Jefferson county.

JOHNSON COUNTY, *E. G. Carroll, Sheriff, Olathe*: Our locality or county is nearly free from the saloon element and we have a high class of citizenship, and any new people coming into the county are of like class, which, of course, increases property values. I think our residence property in Olathe will average about \$20 a foot which I consider pretty good for a town of this size. Regarding the effect on crime, will say that I suppose we have more crime in this county than the average Kansas county,

caused I think by being so near our wet neighbor, Kansas City. However, the per cent of Kansas citizens among the criminals we handle will be less than 5 per cent. The bone-dry law has caused another decrease in crime, just how much I am unable to say.

KEARNEY COUNTY, *S. G. House, Sheriff, Lakin*: I can say the Prohibition and dry policy has been a great help to our towns and throughout the county less drunkenness and crime and fewer people in jail.

BENEFITS INNUMERABLE

MARION COUNTY, *T. B. Armstrong, Sheriff, Marion*: I take great pleasure in reporting to you as an officer of 12 years' experience that the benefits derived from Prohibition are innumerable. It has built up property values and increased industries many fold; it has diminished crime, in my judgment, 75 per cent, if not more. Since the enactment of the bone-dry law in this state, drunkenness and crime originating from the use of intoxicating liquor has practically disappeared.

JAIL PRACTICALLY EMPTY

MITCHELL COUNTY, *J. W. Hays, Sheriff, Beloit*: The dry policy has had no tendency to lessen value of property. Industries move along more smoothly since the bone-dry law in our last Legislature. Crime has diminished from what it was before, but it was not as bad as though we had had open sales of liquor. As to drunkenness, it has fallen off to a greater extent since the bone-dry law, as before they could ship in liquor and some of our fickle-minded would abuse the privilege. So I think the bone-dry law was a great improvement over the allowing shipments of liquor to individuals. Our jail is practically empty since the bone-dry law went into effect. As we generally had from three to five for violations, but now we do not have any, for violations of Prohibition law and other crimes have fallen off.

NEMAHA COUNTY, *Charles E. Carmen, Sheriff, Seneca*: I do not know as to property values or industry, but I do know that it has decreased crime and drunkenness in this section; in fact, there has not been a person arrested in this county since the bone-dry law took effect except one, who was a stranger who had just got off of a train. This was the only arrest for drunkenness.

NESS COUNTY, *A. L. Walton, Sheriff, Ness City*: The bone-dry law has been a great help to us out here, as we don't have any trouble at all since the whisky quit coming, and I think it is the best law on the state docket. As we have had several killings out here over the stuff and we now know how to appreciate the effect of the bone-dry law.

SHERIFF'S BUSINESS DULL

NORTON COUNTY, *Lon Lovejoy, Sheriff, Norton*: Since the enforcement of the bone-dry law, May 1, business in my line

has been dull. I have not seen a drunken man, the jail is empty and some who formerly spent their money for booze are caring for their families. We are for it.

NO CRIME AT ALL

PHILLIPS COUNTY, *W. L. Churchill, Sheriff, Phillipsburg*: It is hard to make an estimate of property values and lines of industry in this part of the state, but as to crime and drunkenness, I beg to inform you that we have comparatively none. I have been serving my county as sheriff for almost a year and we have had no crimes committed by parties who were intoxicated, and we have had to arrest only three men for being drunk, although we have been on guard at all times.

POTTAWATOMIE COUNTY, *C. D. Ladner, Sheriff, Westmoreland*: As to the values that the dry Prohibition policy has had upon property in our section of Kansas, it is worth millions of dollars to Pottawatomie county, and no tongue can tell how many billions of dollars it is worth to the wives and children of the men who drank liquor.

RUSH COUNTY, *L. H. Robertson, Sheriff, LaCrosse*: In my opinion, Prohibition has been of incalculable value to the people of the state of Kansas in various ways. Without a doubt, property values here are greatly in excess of what they would be if this were a saloon town. Industrially, Prohibition has done a great thing also. We have no idle men, and the men who habitually frequented saloons now have steady employment and are reliable and dependable. Crime and drunkenness are almost unheard of. We have no men in the county jail and no inmates of the poor farm. We attribute this fact largely to the fact that Kansas is a Prohibition state.

RUSSELL COUNTY, *P. A. Peterson, Sheriff, Russell*: I do not think that Prohibition has had any effect on property values or industry. Crime and drunkenness are almost a thing of the past.

SHAWNEE COUNTY, *Hugh Larimer, Sheriff, Topeka*: Since the bone-dry law has been in effect the criminal docket has been very light in this county, and I would say that major crime has been reduced about 40 per cent. The monthly average of prisoners held in the county jail is about 15 at the present time, as compared with about 30 prior to the period in question. For the first ten months of this year, as compared with the year 1916, there has been a reduction in the expense of jail maintenance, i. e., boarding prisoners, of over \$1,400. This reduction is in no wise a credit to the present administration nor a reflection upon the former one, but is due, I say, to the workings of the bone-dry law.

POOR FARM NOW EMPTY

STAFFORD COUNTY, *R. W. Welck, Sheriff, St. John*: The liquor interests have been decreasing at a rapid rate during the last ten years, and as a result this locality has been improv-

ing in a great many ways. I might say that one of the indications that point to prosperity is a dry state. In this county we have a poor farm owned and operated by the county for the purpose of taking care of the county's poor who are not able to support themselves, and for a number of years this farm has been empty so far as inmates are concerned, and I am sure the land values are more than in localities where the sale of intoxicating liquors are permitted, and I am sure the morale of the community is far better than where intoxicating liquors are sold, and I might add that since the bone-dry law has been in effect this county has not had a single case of prosecuting a bootlegger. Prior to that time about 60 per cent of the criminal cases were directly or indirectly traceable to the booze interests.

STEVENS COUNTY, *S. C. Thomas, Sheriff, Hugoton*: I have lived in this state many years, and have lived in this immediate locality for some twelve years, and have held the office of sheriff for about two years; and from my observance before entering office, and especially since my taking the office of sheriff, I find that the less liquor a community can get a hold of the less crime is committed, and of course conditions of the community as to property values and industry must be better under such circumstances. However, I will say that this southwest territory is not bothered as much as I have observed in communities where there were large cities and a tough element always to contend with.

SUMNER COUNTY, *J. B. Favor, Sheriff, Wellington*: Will say that I consider that Prohibition has been of great value to property and industry in this section of the state and that it has undoubtedly reduced crime and drunkenness and that the present bone-dry policy has reduced drunkenness to such an extent that I am seldom called upon to make an arrest for this offense.

WOODSON COUNTY, *W. C. Miller, Sheriff, Yates Center*: I am sure for Prohibition in Kansas, have done my best to see that the dry bone law is enforced in this county, having made many arrests and collected several hundred dollars in fines and have over a hundred pints of booze in my possession. Now have three bootleggers in jail at present. Prohibition has been a good thing for the community, as we have got rid of several very undesirable parties and good, law-abiding people have taken their places. Property values have increased, crimes have been less frequent and drunkenness is almost unknown here at present.

WHAT HAPPENED IN KANSAS CITY

WYANDOTTE COUNTY, *John A. Wolfe, Sheriff, Kansas City*: Having had ten years' experience in the sheriff's office, coming into said office as under-sheriff at the time the crusade started in earnest in this county. The what was thought impossible, owing to the location of this city relative to the state line and Kansas City, Mo., was brought about in a comparatively short time with the following results: First, property values have increased about 50 per cent, rental values about 50 per cent,

drunkenness has decreased 75 per cent. Crime has not decreased, but at least 50 per cent is due to the effect that liquor has had on parties made defendants. Crimes having been committed while under the influence of liquor or trying to smuggle liquor into the state under the bone-dry law and apprehended in this county. Industry and thrift have increased to a marked degree.

Judgement of Kansas State Officials

Kansas has been under the statewide dry policy for 37 years. In this period she has had to experiment with laws to ascertain which would best endure against the machinations of habitual criminals who, at the behest of organized liquor interests, sought to break down the policy by nullification.

In that time she has had to overcome the skepticism of good men who were doubtful as to whether a wrong that had endured for thousands of years could be summarily eradicated by an act of the Legislature.

In this period she has had to contend with the occasional defalcations of local officials who went into moral bankruptcy, swore to enforce the law and then perjured themselves with the sublime indifference of a dead crocodile.

But this is all in the past. The enforcement laws have been hammered into the completely resisting power on the anvil of experience.

Skepticism as to the desirability of Prohibition laws has disappeared like the morning mist before the rising sun.

A public officer who would now fail or refuse to enforce this, the people's law, would have about the same social standing in Kansas as would a leper in a ladies' aid society.

For more than a decade not a man has had a ghost of a chance to be elected to any important Kansas office except he be a known advocate of statewide Prohibition.

For more than a decade every political party in the state has openly championed the Prohibition policy.

There is not an important daily or weekly newspaper in the state that has not been an outspoken supporter of the state's dry law. More than 700 editors now vociferously support the dry regime.

There is not a single patriotic, scientific, social or political organization in Kansas with the slightest standing that is not an adherent of the dry program.

With the single exception of ex-Mayor Rose of Kansas City, there is not a single public man in Kansas known outside of his own state, and who has any standing whatever, who is not an advocate of the statewide no-saloon plan. And Mr. Rose could not now be elected to the post of dog catcher in his own town. His course in going into other state campaigns, in the hire of liquor barons, to slander and villify his own state, has forever damned him in Kansas.

There is not now a single board of trade or commercial club in all Kansas that now espouses the return to license.

In November, 1917, W. J. Herwig, Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Kansas, sent out about a thousand personal letters to judges, editors, officials of scientific, agricultural, commercial, labor organizations, and to all sorts of public men, asking the question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of the

Prohibition policy been helpful to the best moral and material interests in Kansas?"

Replies came in by the hundreds, representing every conceivable decent interest in the state. Out of them all, there were exactly two that were hostile to the Prohibition law. One of these two was the secretary of an organization of coopers who complained that the business of making liquor containers had been driven out of Kansas and the other made an argumentative roar for the restoration of the "Red Light" districts which were driven out of the state under the Prohibition regime.

I have given above the text of a large number of these replies, classified according to the interests that they represent. I am reproducing herewith another lot of replies, made up of public officials and somewhat at random:

WHAT KANSAS REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON SAY

Dudley Doolittle, Member of Congress: I believe there is no serious difference of opinion as to this.

Charles Curtis, United States Senator: The good results from Prohibition are to be seen on every hand and it has given us a greater prosperity and caused a great reduction in poverty and crime. The best evidence as to the success of the law in our state is the greatly increased vote for Prohibition every time the question has been before the people. The constant demand is that the laws be made more stringent and the demand in every part of the state for its rigid enforcement. The last candidate who made re-submission and anti-Prohibition the issue received about forty-seven thousand votes out of a total of about five hundred thousand. This is a fair indication as to the feeling of the people of Kansas on the question.

Jouett Shouse, Member of Congress: In my judgment, no other state which has ever adopted Prohibition has proved so conclusively its entire benefits from a mental, moral and material standpoint as has the state of Kansas. I have long been impressed with the fact that Kansas has pre-eminently stood out as a striking exemplification of the widespread benefits of Prohibition. And I believe much of the latter day prosperity of Kansas is due to the fact that in this state we have a generation now grown which has been raised up without the deleterious effect of the open saloon.

W. A. Ayres, Member of Congress, Wichita: I am very glad to answer your question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas?" in the affirmative.

I cannot see any other argument from the other side but for me to enter into a lengthy discussion, I would have to repeat what has been said often. As I say, there is no argument to the contrary.

The moral standard of our citizens of this state is sufficient evidence and argument to the answer to the question and I will say further that I was glad to be able to vote to make the District of Columbia dry and hope to be able to help pass a National Amendment to make the entire United States dry.

Guy T. Heverling, Member of Congress, Marysville: Kansas is stronger for Prohibition today than it ever has been. It is so for the reason that it has made a thorough test and is well satisfied with the result. Essentially a state of farm homes and of rural life, it has learned that Prohibition makes for happier homes, for a higher standard of morality, and for the physical and mental improvement of its people. Kansas puts up the result of years of practice against the assumption of its critics. It points to the steady drift of its neighbors to get in line, and it says to you in all fairness, "If my methods had worked evil, if decay had come as the result of what I have been practicing, it would have been impossible to induce my neighbors to abandon their ideas of years and fall in step with me to live as my people have been and are living.

BEYOND THE EXPERIMENTAL STAGE

W. Y. Morgan, Lieutenant Governor, Hutchinson: The policy of Prohibition has been one of the greatest factors in the material prosperity of Kansas. This fact is so generally accepted that I know of no one who would now be in favor of abandoning Prohibition. It has kept our money at home and in useful places, and it has attracted the very best citizenship from other states. It has also secured and assured maintenance of a higher moral standard along all lines.

Prohibition in Kansas has been beyond the experimental stage so long that there is not even a suggestion made for a change.

HELPED, SAYS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

S. M. Brewster, Attorney General, Topeka: Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests in Kansas in that it has reduced the consumption of intoxicating liquors and thereby greatly reduced crime in the state. Since the prohibitory law has been enforced, the criminal costs incurred in counties in this state in the prosecution of cases has decreased greatly. It has reduced drunkenness and the money that would be spent for intoxicating liquors is now, to a great extent, spent for the necessities of life. Since the bone-dry law became effective, the sale of intoxicating liquors has greatly fallen off and the enforcement of the law has become a comparatively easy matter, and this reduction in the consumption of intoxicating liquors has resulted in a great reduction of crime, particularly petty crimes that are heard in the police courts.

Jasper T. Kincaid, State Tax Commissioner, Topeka: Intemperance is everywhere and at all times destructive of morals and

tends to bring misery and poverty; renders homes less harmonious; debauches young manhood and womanhood; robs the laborer and men of moderate means of their livelihood and makes their support of those dependent upon them more meager; impairs the standard of our schools; loads down our police courts and increases the demands for charity.

Prohibition has reduced intemperance in this state to the minimum and has encouraged and fostered that sobriety which is absolutely essential to domestic peace, thrift and moral, intellectual and spiritual advancement.

The money spent for drink where the saloon flourishes, in Kansas where the saloon is prohibited, goes for the support of schools, for books, for better dressed wives and children, for automobiles, for the pleasure of the family and for comfortable and attractive homes.

That Prohibition has benefited Kansas, both morally and materially, is really not a debatable question. There is but one side and that the affirmative.

FROM THE KANSAS STATE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Joseph L. Bristow, Chairman of the Commission, and former United States Senator: In my opinion, Prohibition has been of great value to the people of this state in the development of their material resources, because the money that would have been wasted for strong drink has been invested in useful enterprises and the purchase of home comforts.

Prohibition has been of special value to the working-people of Kansas so that they have better homes and provide for their families very much better than where Prohibition does not prevail. They are able to give their children better school privileges, and to make life much more comfortable for their wives.

It has resulted in a toning up of the public service. The people are more exacting in their requirements of public officials. There is no higher moral tone pervading the entire population. To go back to the old saloon system would be unthinkable to the people of Kansas.

Those who originally opposed Prohibition, if left to pass upon the question today, as a result of their experience, would overwhelmingly vote for it. Its strict enforcement always commends it to public favor.

John M. Kinkel, Member of the Commission, Topeka: I am of the opinion that the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas. My conclusions are based upon personal knowledge, resulting from more than thirty years' residence in the state. In addition to the many forceful statements and statistics furnished in support of this conclusion, I feel that a comparison of the moral status and material well-being of those communities in which Prohibition is not found, demonstrates beyond

question of doubt the superiority from every viewpoint of the situation in Kansas.

The liquor traffic has time and again been branded as an outlaw and entitled only to such privileges as the people see fit to confer upon it. Why such traffic, carrying in its wake nothing but crime with resultant misery and death, should be tolerated, much less given any privileges, is beyond my comprehension.

George H. Hodges, Former Governor, Olathe: I beg to call your attention to the fact that when we adopted Prohibition our state had less than one million people and at that time we had 724 residents in the Kansas penitentiary. When I retired as executive we had a population of one million, seven hundred thousand and had 740 residents at the penitentiary. We have almost doubled our population during the interim of Prohibition and have increased our prison population but sixteen. Prohibition needs no defense. Our almost freedom from crime, imbecility, insanity, degeneracy and poverty as compared with other states speaks in no unmistakable terms the value of Prohibition.

ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN

James A. Kimball, Business Manager, Kansas State Board of Administration, Topeka: I most certainly am firm in my opinion that the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interest of Kansas. The use of intoxicating liquors destroys character, and ruins the physical well-being of the individual. It takes money out of the regular channels of commerce, and thereby is injurious to business.

You may rest assured that I am absolutely certain that the above statement is correct.

HOW IT HELPED LABOR

P. J. McBride, Commissioner of Labor, Topeka: In connection with my work as Labor Commissioner I have noted especially the effect of Prohibition upon the laboring classes, and wish to say that the laborers of Kansas are a sober and industrious class of men, much more dependable than any similar class of laborers in any states having open saloons with which I have been familiar. Kansas employers have scarcely any difficulty in having a full force of workmen on Monday morning and the next morning after holidays, such as is the experience of employers in wet states. And the employers as a class are much more efficient—all of which is for the material interests of the business and industrial life of Kansas. The workmen are as a class good, clean, moral citizens, providing good homes for their families and educating their children, increasing the moral and material welfare of the state as a whole. It is my judgment that the business interests as well as the morals of our country as a whole would be greatly benefitted by universal Prohibition.

F. G. Agrelus, President of the Kansas Academy of Science and Associate Professor of Biology, State University, Emporia: In my

opinion it has been decidedly helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas. Some of my reasons for thinking so follow. I have seen Kansas both before and after its adoption, and while I was young at the time of its adoption, I can still remember some of the facts upon which I base my conclusion. During this period I have spent some of my time in other states not so favored as we, and the comparison thus afforded will enable anyone to decide as I have decided. Reliable reports of the comparative conditions morally and financially in this and other states also point most positively in the same direction. For example the conditions as to crime, reports of banks and other institutions, per capita wealth and financial conditions of the people generally, are favorable to my belief.

J. T. Lovewell, Secretary Kansas Academy of Science, Topeka: I came to Kansas in 1878, before the constitutional amendment, abolishing the manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages was enacted. Most of the time since I have been secretary of the Kansas Academy of Science, and chemist to the State Board of Agriculture. This is to show my opportunities for judging the operation of the prohibitory amendment. Some of the larger towns fought its operation and delayed its effect, but the people of Kansas have steadily upheld it, and each successive Legislature has added sanctions to the strict enforcement of the law; and if Prohibition becomes national there will be no further trouble with the liquor problem in Kansas.

VOICE OF THREE EDUCATORS

W. D. Ross, State Superintendent of Education, Topeka: It is my opinion that the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition in Kansas has been most helpful to the moral and material interests of Kansas. I believe this to be true because of an increased enrollment and attendance in the public schools, a decrease in the criminal population; because it has demanded an expenditure of less money for police and courts, because of the few paupers in this state and the large accumulation of wealth. The fact that one hundred thousand boys and girls never saw a drunken man is sufficient proof that Prohibition prohibits and that suggestion to crime and debauchery does not find a place in Kansas, shows that reason for the low criminal rate.

L. D. Whittemore, Secretary State Board of Education, Topeka: In my judgment there are the strongest reasons for believing that the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas. I became a resident of Kansas in 1881, just after the Prohibition amendment had been adopted, and have observed the efforts made in the different parts of the state to secure the faithful observance and enforcement of the prohibitory law, and have been much gratified by the increasing popularity of Prohibition. It has won its way on its merits even in communities where it was formerly thought to be impossible to enforce the law, and the improved conditions furnish abundant evidence everywhere that the state has been benefitted beyond measure

by the abstinence of the people from the use of intoxicants. The benefits of the prohibitory law are incalculable when one considers that the present generation of young people in Kansas do not know from personal experience or observation what an open saloon is. I believe that the healthful moral conditions and the material prosperity of Kansas are due to the absence of the liquor evil.

James L. King, State Librarian, Topeka: In my judgment the prohibitory law in this state has been of great advantage, not only to the people of Kansas, but in its influence for good in all of the other states of the Union. The success of Prohibition in Kansas has been so marked that it seems to me to be entirely unnecessary to multiply arguments in its favor. It is now the settled policy of Kansas, and is not likely to be disturbed. Answering your direct question, I am glad to say that I believe the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas.

The secretary of the Kansas State Civil Service Commission, Mr. J. E. Caton, requests me to say to you that he fully coincides with the views above expressed.

H. O. Castor, Attorney Public Utilities Commission, Topeka: I am decidedly of the opinion that the prohibitory amendment has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas. It has decreased crime; it has saved the citizens from being weakened and made inefficient by the use of alcoholic beverages.

THE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE

W. R. Smith, State Printer, Topeka: When, after 37 years of trial, a public policy is indorsed by every political party of any prominence, it is conclusive evidence that its operation has proven its merit. The policy of Prohibition enjoys just such a distinction in Kansas. Every amendment to the law has been for the purpose of making it more effective, and today no political party would think of opposing its operation.

Prohibition in Kansas has practically abolished the drink evil and has brought in its place increased moral and physical health and greater happiness and prosperity.

J. W. Lough, State Irrigation Commissioner, Scott City: Replying to yours of the 9th inst., as to the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition as being helpful, will say that I consider it very much so.

In a number of instances I know of good men that are absolutely worthless when they can obtain liquor.

R. C. Moore, State Geologist, Lawrence: I am very glad to say that, without equivocation, the principle of bone-dry Prohibition in the state and country, there is, in my judgment, not the slightest question but that the economic resources of the state have been very largely increased by the greater efficiency of the workers. Incalculably more important, however, is the moral effect which I think the absence of the saloon has had. Kansas is a safe place in which to live. It would, I believe, be a tremendous step forward to pass stringent legislation providing for National Prohibition.

S. J. Hunter, State Entomologist, Lawrence: In reply, I can

say without qualification, yes. Prohibition has removed the greatest temptations of youth and made possible in Kansas a higher moral and material development than could have been possible in the presence of the saloon.

B. S. Tieman, State Highway Commissioner, Fort Scott: I think that Prohibition has been the greatest thing that Kansas ever accomplished. In our town here I know of men who on Saturday night would spend almost their entire wages over the bar, in fact, some that did do so. Their children were ragged and their wives had no amusement or comfort whatever. Today these same men's children are dressed as well as the best, their families are able to enjoy the amusements that others do, and the husbands are making good citizens.

Of course, I probably am not able to be a fair judge on a proposition of this kind because I am opposed and always have been to the use of liquor, being a total abstainer myself.

THE MINERS SAY SO, TOO

Fred Green, State Mine Inspector, Pittsburg: It has only been a few years since the traffic in intoxicating liquor in this state was very large, and I have found that the conditions along this line are gradually but surely growing better. Particularly has this been the fact in this county during the last four or five years. Pittsburg is located in Crawford county, Kansas, about five miles from the Kansas and Missouri state line, and it can be readily seen that the conditions existing on the Missouri side of the state line, across the border from this county, are to be abhorred. This condition, of course, makes this county more or less a traffic-way for liquor and is the cause of numerous violations of the prohibitory liquor law in this section of the state, but as stated before, the conditions of morality are gradually getting better and the county officers in this county are making every effort under the bone-dry law to stamp out the liquor traffic in this section.

It is my information that in the central and western part of this state very little, if any, liquor is found to be transported, and if our sister state of Missouri would adopt the policy of Kansas, the border states around Kansas would all be Prohibition and thus would the conditions in Kansas be bettered to a greater extent.

F. C. Cave, Superintendent Kansas State Home for Feeble-Minded, Winfield: Some time during the past month I received a letter from you asking a question or two in reference to the Prohibition question. In reply will state that I have lived in Kansas for 20 years and during all that time I have probably seen not over a half-dozen intoxicated people on our streets. This is self-evident that Prohibition has been helpful in the best moral and material interests of our Kansas communities.

Harry C. Green, Register U. S. Land Office, Topeka: Answering your question in this letter, I would say: "Yes." I am a Hoosier, I was raised in a small town of 300 where three saloons ran wide, open to boys "on the sly," as well as men. The conditions were damnable. I saw, and lived and felt the result. I lived in

Pierre, S. D., and conditions were bad there, but not so bad as in Indiana until the saloons were abolished by local option in my home town. I went to Palo Alto, Cal., for three and one-half years and was graduated from Stanford, where I studied the results of liquor. There were no saloons in Palo Alto—5,000 inhabitants, but Menlo Park, a village two miles from the university, was full of them. You could stand on one corner and see seven by turning around. The Press club met in one of them. Dr. Jordan, president, myself and two other students went to Redwood City to protest to the County Commissioners about not renewing a saloon license. The following Wednesday a student going home drunk from one of the saloons staggered into the wrong house and was shot for a burglar and killed. That finally resulted in the Legislature passing a "zone" law around educational institutions in California. I lived in California before coming to Kansas, where drunks were common. I came here six years ago and have been city and managing editor of the Daily Capital, lawyer and Register U. S. Land Office, and have had fine opportunity to observe. I unhesitatingly say: Put the saloons out of commission.

FACTS FROM STATE AUDITOR KNAPP

Fred W. Knapp, State Auditor, Topeka: While I was secretary of the State Board of Control I took occasion to make some comparisons between Kansas and some states where they had the open saloon. I found that in the county jails of Rhode Island during the year 1909 there was a total of 2,748 commitments; and of these 1,164 were committed on the charge of drunkenness to say nothing of the large number of kindred charges for which liquor was responsible.

Of 588 commitments to the state workhouse of that state during the same year 205 were committed on the charge of being "common drunkards." Of the grand total of 24,202 persons who had been committed to that institution since its establishment, 10,892 were "common drunkards," 1,198 disorderly persons, 1,132 common prostitutes, 280 lewd and wanton persons, 233 railers and brawlers, and 1,120 sturdy beggars.

Of 361 patients admitted to their state insane hospital during that year, the cause assigned in 97 cases was alcoholism.

In Kansas, with practically four times the population of Rhode Island, out of 717 applications made for the admission of patients to the state insane hospitals during the same period, alcoholism was assigned as the probable cause in only 18 cases. Over half of our county jails were empty and more than a fourth of the counties were without a pauper upon their poor farms. No such criminal charges as "common drunkard," "railer and brawler" or "sturdy beggar" were to be found in the Kansas statutes.

What Prominent Men Think About Prohibition in Kansas

IS PROHIBITION A SUCCESS IN KANSAS?

Asking a Kansan the above question immediately puts the questioner on the defensive. The witness being examined looks at you with a quissical eye a half grin and sometimes with a sort of an impatient air. Your question finds him in about the same mental attitude as would be the case if you asked him such questions as "Are the horse stealing laws of Kansas a success?" or "Is decency popular in Kansas?" When, however, it appears that the questioner comes from the East, especially from a license state, the Kansas witness becomes more fired with the enthusiasm of a missionary to the heathen. You immediately get an earful of all sorts of facts and figures to show the good results following the abolition of the saloon waste.

The average Kansan who personally familiar with the changes wrought after the abolition of the saloon sees no more reason for saloons in which to squander the people's time and earnings than he would for setting fire to the people's wheat fields. And to them, the wastage of human life and character is even more serious than would be the destruction of a little grain or a good deal of grain. Kansas has received the Prohibition gospel, tested it, tried it in the crucible of experience and now, almost to the last man, Kansas has become saturated with the missionary spirit. She would like other states to enjoy what she has experienced. Just write to any man in Kansas, whether you know him or not, asking about the effect of the dry policy. Pick out ANY man from the Governor down to the village blacksmith.

To the question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the moral and material interests of the state?" there have been many replies printed in recent issues of *The American Issue*. In this connection, another installment of this evidence is here presented, all of the letters having been written during November and December, 1917, and addressed to W. J. Herwig, Superintendent of the Kansas Department of the Anti-Saloon League of America.

THE OLD SOLDIERS' VOICE

A. C. Pierce, Department Commander, G. A. R., Junction City: I will say "Yes." The prohibitory law has been a help to the moral, material and, I will add, to the political interests of Kansas. The law is far-reaching. It reaches the county seat, the school, the family and I have no doubt has improved the political interests of the state more than any law ever passed by the Legislature of Kansas. When all the states reach the Kansas standard, and I believe they will in the near future, the United States will be the model nation and the oppressed of every nation will want to come here.

I have seen the time when slave-holders ruled Kansas, and their

overthrow was a great progressive measure. I have seen the time when breweries and saloons ruled the politics and policies of the state. The overthrow of slave-holders and the saloons in Kansas and the adoption of woman's suffrage puts Kansas at the head of the column of progressive states in the Union. I am proud of Kansas and her wonderful achievements during the past 60 years.

S. S. Martin, Commandant, Kansas State Soldiers' Home, Fort Dodge: I have lived in Kansas 30 years, and every city and village and community that I have been associated with—and I have been all over the state as presiding elder and pastor, and state agent for church, old people's home, and wherever Prohibition has been enforced and the saloon and joint driven out, the morals of the people have been greatly advanced. I have found where lawlessness, gambling and drunkenness run riot, Prohibition has checked it all.

And as commandant at the state soldiers' home, for the past two and one-half years, I have never known such a transformation, from drunkenness and misery and lawlessness, as has come to the old soldiers and their families in this home because of our insisting upon sobriety, and crushing out all drunkenness. Many old comrades, who seem to be doomed by the drink habit, are now among our best and happiest and most contented comrades, and many of them earnest Christians advocating everything that is good, and denouncing the bad things they once advocated.

H. K. Wells, Treasurer, Board of Managers, Kansas State Soldiers' Home, Louisburg: In regard to the question that you ask, I think that the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition in the state of Kansas has been one of the greatest pieces of legislation that was ever accomplished.

I think we have less crime, fewer idle people; in fact, the home surroundings are more pleasant than they were under the old rule of free whisky.

THE STORY IS IN THE RECORD

Ralph W. Squires, President Kansas State Register of Deeds Association, Topeka: The adoption and maintenance of Prohibition have been of incalculable value to the people of Kansas. The benefits have been so numerous and diversified that no summarized statement of a few sentences can do them justice.

The humanitarian is gratified by the sight of our well-clad, properly-nourished children in real homes, presided over by happy mothers and clear-eyed, sober fathers. The business man recognizes the increased efficiency of his employees and the increased purchasing power of his patrons, while the citizen rejoices that our politics are no longer disturbed by the insistent demands of the liquor interests. Prohibition in Kansas has come to stay. Kansans admit it and are not sorry.

A. M. Keene, Speaker of the House of Representatives, 1917-1918: I can say beyond question the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been very helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas. Much less crime is committed under Prohibition than before, and money that heretofore has gone for liquor now goes for

groceries, clothing, etc., and as a result our merchants do a bigger and better business and the wives and children of those who formerly spent their money in the saloons are now better fed and cared for.

AND IT'S A MATTER OF HISTORY

William E. Connelley, Secretary Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka: My answer to that question is "yes," and there are so many reasons for it that they cannot all be stated in a letter. There isn't a single reason against it.

Edwin M. Hopkins, Historian, Kansas Society of Mayflower Descendants, Lawrence: My reply to your letter of November 27 is, of course, affirmative. My reasons are my own personal observation of the value of lessening intoxication in homes and on the public streets, of the increased earning power of individuals, and of the decrease in the expense of criminal and accident cases arising from intoxication. I am also acquainted with statistics confirming my observations.

Mrs. DeWitt C. Nellis, President Native Daughters of Kansas and Trustee John Brown Memorial Park, Topeka: The moral benefits are, if possible, more important. What was at one time a legalized business, under Prohibition has become unlawful and anyone engaging in it, a criminal and outlaw. The respectability of a social time in the saloon has vanished. It is no longer regarded as respectable to either conduct such a business, or be found in such a place.

Destroying the business has removed the temptation and opportunity for the younger class of men to engage in this kind of social entertainment, which in many cases was resorted to, not for the taste for liquor but for a social time. The continuing of this sociability resulted in an appetite and habit, which in turn resulted in the destruction of manhood, and the end was a drunkard, with all the evil consequences that of necessity surround such a life, not only to the person drinking but to his family, relatives, and society in general.

The drinking of intoxicating liquors has become unpopular. The opportunity for creating a taste for liquor has been destroyed in the Prohibition states. A citizenship of younger men has grown up without the taste for liquor, without the habit of drinking. The "social cup" has been banished, the result being the destruction of the evils of legalized crime and the substitution of good morals, thrift, health of both body and mind and the existence of a nobler manhood in the younger generation of men as exemplified in those now in training for war. It is a matter of comment, the wonderful physical and mental condition of the Kansas boys, both enlisted men and commissioned officers, and that may very easily be traced to the fact that they have grown to manhood without seeing an old-fashioned saloon within the state of Kansas.

Charles S. Gleed, President Kansas State Historical Society and Department of Archives, Topeka: I have your letter of November 9 making inquiry of me as follows: "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and ma-

terial interests of Kansas?" My answer is yes. I have never heard anyone advance any argument in favor of the saloon or the use of alcoholic liquor as a beverage. The material record of Kansas is best proven by the statistics which show a most magnificent development since Prohibition took effect.

THE VOICE OF THE EDUCATOR

E. H. S. Bailey, Professor of Chemistry, University of Kansas, Lawrence: I will say emphatically, "Yes." I believe that Prohibition has been helpful to the people because the young men of the state are brought up in a very much better atmosphere than if intoxicating liquors were for sale in the saloons and hotels of the state. They have learned that it is possible for them to live a normal life without the use of intoxicating liquors. I believe also that when they go into other localities where liquor is sold they will feel that it is not necessary to follow the customary drinking habits of society. Since a large proportion of the population has no opportunity to readily obtain intoxicating liquors, they do not learn the taste of these beverages and consequently do not readily form habits of drinking.

B. L. Wolfe, Professor, Department of Mining Engineering, Kansas State University, Lawrence: In answer to your question will say that Prohibition has most certainly been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas. I say this although I have been until recently a resident of a section of the state where it is claimed that the prohibitory laws have not been rigidly enforced. Money formerly spent for whisky is now spent in providing for the family. Legitimate business is better. Living conditions are improved, there is less crime, pauperism is decreased. In fact, there is no argument to be brought forward against Prohibition laxly enforced it has been argued that it would be better to repeal a law that is not enforced than permit it to remain on the statutes. It is not a valid argument. There still remains the great educational effect that such a law has upon the rising generation. So I would say that from every standpoint Prohibition has been a boon to Kansas.

L. E. Sayre, Dean, School of Pharmacy, University of Kansas, Lawrence: I can most emphatically say, in answer to your question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas?" that it has been decidedly most helpful. At first, over 30 years ago when I came to Kansas, the distribution of liquor was left in the hands of physicians until it almost ruined the good name of the medical profession. Then the responsibility of dispensing liquor was shifted to and upon the shoulders of the pharmaceutical profession. This latter vocation became almost ruined by it, from which degradation it is slowly but surely recovering. Intoxicating liquor should be handled as any other agent classified under the anti-narcotic law.

THE TEACHERS SAY SO TOO

Lillian Scott, Professor Department of Pedagogy, Baker University, Baldwin City: My answer is "Yes." My reason for this answer—The hundreds of fine, clean, wholesome young men who

have come to college from Kansas homes, young men who do not know the taste of liquor, and who, not knowing it now, will never care to learn it; an equal number of young women, who have never seen a drunken man, whose ideals are high, for themselves and their associates—Prohibition in Kansas has made these standards and ideals not only possible but actual.

Thomas W. Butcher, President Kansas State Normal School, Emporia: Replying to your letter of November 9 as to my estimate of the working of the prohibitory law in this state, will say that I believe profoundly in the law. No man who travels in states where liquor is sold under the protection of the law can fail to appreciate the blessing the prohibitory law has been to the people of Kansas.

William A. Lewis, President Kansas State Normal School, Fort Hays: Speaking from my own personal observation and personal knowledge, I can say that it has produced conditions in Kansas equal to the most extravagant claims made by the active workers for a saloonless nation. The moral standard of a man or woman who has been raised in a community where intoxicating liquors are not on public sale is shocked when brought face to face with the public dram shop. One who is used to living in a saloonless community instinctively turns his face away when he passes down the city street in front of a saloon.

W. A. Brandenburg, President Kansas State Manual Training School, Pittsburg: There can be but one answer to this question—yes, emphatically yes. Our state is today free from debt; the moral status of the citizenship of the state of Kansas has long been recognized as very wholesome, and of high standard; the happy, contented condition of her citizenship; the comparatively small number of her persons incarcerated in jails and prisons; the keenness, alertness and general efficiency of her citizenship.

J. B. Larimer, Member Board of Trustees, Industrial and Educational Institute (colored), Topeka: I lived in Kansas ten years before Prohibition was adopted, and Topeka has been my home ever since. The contrast of conditions before and since Prohibition was adopted has demonstrated that there is a higher standard of morals, both public and private, in the state since, than before, the adoption of the amendment. In the communities where the law has been most strictly enforced the advantages are most marked.

The material interests of the state, in all particulars, have been greatly improved. Taxes are less; there is less crime; business is better; there is less poverty; there is less illiteracy; there are more homes owned by the people; the homes of the people are better supplied: the families better provided for, and the sentiment of the state is now practically unanimous in favor of constitutional Prohibition strictly enforced. No party or candidate could succeed in any community on a non-enforcement, anti-Prohibition platform.

I am glad to bear this testimony and do it without any hesitancy or mental reservation whatever.

THE YOUNGSTERS

H. W. Charles, Superintendent Boys' Industrial School, Topeka: From the standpoint of a citizen of the state of Kansas, I can give

an affirmative answer to your inquiry. I came to Kansas soon after the adoption of the policy of Prohibition. My children were born and raised in this state, and never saw even the outside of a saloon except as they visited other states.

Insofar as the policy of Prohibition has affected the morals and material interests of Kansas, I wish to give it my unqualified endorsement.

D. F. Shick, President National Children's Home Society and State Superintendent of the Kansas Children's Home Society, Topeka: I taught school a number of years in Illinois where we had high license and local option, also lived in Iowa when they had the high license and more recently lived in Kansas for thirty-one years. I have had a fair opportunity to observe the difference between high license as a policy and Prohibition.

In my school work I found that in our Prohibition state, as a rule, the children were better clothed and had higher ideals of life than those who lived in saloon towns. Parents likewise were more easily dealt with where matters of school policy had to be taken up with them.

In a business way, I find that milk bills and grocery bills are met more promptly and fewer have had to be charged to profit and loss than in a community where a part of the earnings went to booze.

I consider that I was very fortunate in being able to rear my own children in a state and community where they never saw a saloon and rarely smelt the fumes of alcohol.

I am certain that 90 per cent of Kansas people are in favor of the bone-dry law and the rigid enforcement of all measures for the suppression of the liquor traffic.

THE FRATERNAL INTEREST

L. M. Penwell, Grand Master of Kansas, I. O. O. F., Topeka: Will say there is no question about it, neither is there any argument. Any law or resolution that will make men better, and clothe their children better instead of buying liquor, is good. Any law that will prevent a saloon on every good street corner in your city is also good, and that is what Prohibition has done for Kansas.

I am for it, and I am sure the people of Kansas never will permit another saloon within its borders.

J. V. Abrahams, National Secretary Knights and Ladies of Security, Topeka: Yes, most emphatically so. There are hundreds of reasons that might be given for this conclusion. It is because the money which was spent for booze, where liquor was sold, now goes into food and clothing for the families and is saved.

I don't suppose there is a city in the country, the size of Topeka, that has as many men, that is, workingmen, living in their own homes, bought, in many instances, through the help of a building and loan association. The start being made because of the fact that they were able to accumulate a little bit to make the initial payment.

Secondly, there are thousands of boys and girls in this state,

grown to manhood and womanhood, that don't know what a saloon is.

Thirdly, you can look up and down the streets in this city or any other city in the state of Kansas, without seeing any sign of the evil effects of liquor.

Fourthly, it has given the citizens of this state a higher standard of morality and respect for law.

AND OTHERS SAY SO ALSO

F. W. Hunt, President Kansas State Board of Optometry, Burlingame: Decidedly. I was opposed to all sumptuary legislation and voted against the Prohibition amendment. The results of Prohibition were so positive and visable that I would vote for it now.

John Steele, Secretary Kansas State Mining Board, Pittsburg: Will say in answering your questions therein, that I believe it has, and on that account I have failed to find a better state to raise a family. My oldest son is 26 years old, and has never been in a saloon, and don't know the taste of liquor, and never smoked a cigar or cigarette, and has never used a pipe.

How is that for the morality of our beloved state of Kansas?

James Hamilton, Member Kansas State Mining Commission: There is but one answer to this question, and that is that it has been and is, the results are plainly visible to anyone who wishes to see them.

J. S. Johnson, Vice President Kansas State Board of Examiners in Optometry, LeRoy: I am very much in favor of Prohibition. It has been a great benefit to the state of Kansas in that we have less crime committed, less suffering among women and children, and better homes than in the wet states. And I know that it is a benefit to our young boys as the temptation is not continuously before them. We hope the time will soon come when we may have national Prohibition.

T. B. Olroyd, Member Kansas State Board of Embalming, Arkansas City: I would answer yes, most emphatically.

Morally—Has made far cleaner conditions to raise a family under and for all else that stands for the betterment of humanity.

Materially—Money spent for liquor in states "wide open," in Kansas goes for the legitimate needs of the family and the merchants in those legitimate lines are benefitted, of course.

J. R. Ransom, President Wichita Civic League: In answering this question permit me to say that I came from the state of Tennessee to this state thirty years ago and found Prohibition enacted into law and placed on the statute book of this state, and as I must tell the truth, if there is one blessing above another that Kansas can boast of that's responsible for her prosperity and growth it is Prohibition, and the stricter it is enforced the better citizens do we produce, the better schools do we have.

Louis B. Huff, Treasurer Kansas State Barber Board, Topeka: I believe the adoption of the Prohibition law is to the best moral and material interests of Kansas.

Because it has enabled men who work for a small salary to

escape temptation by the continued presence of the saloon and thereby enable him to save his money, provide better for his family and for the education of that family and the laying by of money for use in old age.

It has broken up what, in my opinion, has been in the past and is now in liquor selling states, the home of criminals and places where crimes are planned and the execution thereof agreed upon.

It has, in my opinion, also abolished the vast political system headed by saloon men and their hangers-on and materially aids in cleaner politics.

It has enabled the people of this state to rear families who are now coming of age into control of the state who know nothing about liquor and thus promotes the politics and material welfare of the state.

With the abolition of liquor from the state it carried with it those other dives and bawdy houses that are the handmaidens of saloons and liquor sellers.

The Voice of Medicine

Charles S. Huffman, M.D., President Kansas Medical Society, Topeka: We have been free from the influence of saloon and brewery interests. There is no temptation before the young people of the state. The laborer is sober and industrious and provides better for his family. But best of all, it has developed the finest type of citizenship and young manhood and womanhood to be found anywhere in this country.

Sara E. Greenfield, M.D., Bacteriologist Kansas State Board of Health, Topeka: I answer yes. Even if no person who had previously acquired the habit of drink would be reformed after coming under the influence of Prohibition, the law would still be very good. It is for the young native Kansan that we rejoice. He has a heritage far better than the youth of non-Prohibition states. I think I can illustrate this best by telling of an incident which happened in Chicago a number of years ago. A number of young people—all students, were discussing the saloon—an institution which occupied every corner lot and one in the middle of the block in that Fair City by the Lake. These young people were from the middle west and only one was from Kansas. Said one of the party, "I wouldn't go into a common saloon, but I would go into a nice saloon." Said the one from Kansas, "There are no nice saloons."

S. J. Crumline, M.D., Secretary Kansas State Board of Health, Topeka: Replying to your letter and question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas," I would say, that in my judgment, it has, but I would broaden that question and answer by saying that it has, also, been helpful to the maintenance of the public health, which is reflected in the fact that Kansas has the lowest death rate of any state in the registration area. Clean, sober, sane living must always react beneficially on the people in maintaining a high state of physical well-being. Healthy people will, naturally, be better able to cope with life's problems, and be more efficient both mentally and morally.

Clay E. Coburn, M.D., Member Kansas State Board of Health, Kansas City: I am very glad to answer in the affirmative. I consider the enactment of the prohibitory law the greatest factor for the moral and material uplift of Kansas that could possibly have been enacted.

W. M. Earnest, M.D., President Board of Health, Washington: Only one answer can be made to your inquiry, and that is "yes." Improved living conditions, better health, better morals and less crime.

Sister Catherine Voith, R.N., President Kansas State Nurses' Association, Topeka: In answering the question, "Has the adoption of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas," we can answer only in the affirmative. It will be unnecessary to quote statistics as proof, as you undoubtedly are well versed in them. Suffice it that I say that our hospitals have little or no use for "straight jackets, strong wards" or other appliances such as are used daily in communities where the saloons still hold sway.

Our average people are industrious and prosperous, and when they get sick they can afford to pay for a private room in a hospital and leave the charity wards to the "honest poor." Diseases, a direct consequence of a life of vice and immorality, though existing to a deplorable degree, are less than they were when liquor was to be had in any town in Kansas.

F. A. Carmichael, M.D., Superintendent Osawatimie State Hospital, Osawatimie: It seems hardly worth while to make such an inquiry of true Kansas who has the best interest of the state at heart.

No state can point with greater pride to the adoption of any policy of the consummation of any ideal than can Kansas.

With reference to her prohibitory laws, the increased prosperity of its people, the diminution of crime and pauperism; the reduction of its quota of dependents the lesser number in its juvenile delinquents and prosperity of its citizenship bear eloquent witness to the great good it has accomplished.

L. R. Sellers, M. D., Superintendent Larned State Hospital, Larned: I answer unhesitatingly. Since its adoption we have grown a generation of men who have been kept free from the pernicious influence of the saloon, and but very few of them are drunkards.

The clandestine joint, and the bootlegger, occasionally supply the old drunkard with drink; but our growing boys and young men are not contaminated.

J. T. Axtel, M.D., Surgeon, Axtel Hospital, Newton: I am certainly very sure that the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been immensely helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas, and I have lived in Kansas since 1865.

F. M. Godfrey, D.O., Secretary State Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration, Topeka: YES; because—

The moral condition of every community in the state shows a marked improvement.

Crime is far less frequent, as is proven by our court records.

There are less calls for aid at agencies that help the needy.

More people are willing to contribute to the calls for help, they knowing that it comes from those who are worthy and have met with misfortunes, and not from drunkenness.

Troops coming from states that license saloons do not maintain the good moral, as those coming from states that do not.

There is no occasion for a lady to blush with shame by passing these hell-holes, and drunken brawls, when on the streets of our cities and towns.

It helps to lower the death rate of infants.

There are fewer insane and inebriates.

Of the moral effect upon the youth.

This law inforced makes it impossible for one to acquire the habit of using liquor.

Accidents are reduced in frequency of railway, street cars, automobiles and all factories.

Anna M. Foy, D.C., President State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Topeka: I will say; in my opinion, decidedly so.

It has helped give to the present generation in Kansas, better minds and bodies.

It has been of material help in eradicating poverty from our families, directing the expenditure of moneys by wives and children of working classes to the betterment of the whole family, rather than having it spent to fill the coffers of the saloon and breweries.

Our jails contain fewer inmates, and our criminal dockets fewer cases than states not having Prohibition, thus proving Prohibition to be helpful morally.

Mrs. H. A. Post, D.C., Secretary-Treasurer State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Winfield: My answer to your question is most emphatically, yes. I am a Kansan-born and cannot help but notice the difference in the saloonless towns of Kansas and the saloon towns of Missouri and Ohio when I visit my husband's people, who live near Cleveland, Ohio, and I am surely proud to say my two sons never have and never will see a legalized dramshop in good old Kansas.

B. A. Robinson, Secretary State Board of Veterinary Examiners, Independence: I think this question can best be answered by means of another question: "How, in God's name, could the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition be otherwise than helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas?" It is a matter of record, as well as a knowledge from observation, that 90 per cent of immorality and crime is primarily caused by booze. With me, it goes without saying, that Prohibition has been the greatest uplift of anything in her history.

INSANITY

Owing to the wide variation of methods used in the different states in caring for the insane and owing to the wide variation of the classifications of the insane prevailing in different states, statistics of the number of insane are worthless for purposes of comparison unless between states having the same standards or between institutions in different states that have the same standards. As an illustration: Illinois hangs people for first degree murder. Kansas sends such to the penitentiary for life. Comparing life-term convicts in the penitentiaries of the two states to the disadvantage of Kansas would be as grotesque as it would be to compare hangings in the two states, to the disadvantage of Illinois. The following reply to Mr. Herwig's inquiry throws a flood of light on the question of insanity in Kansas:

T. C. Biddle, M.D., Superintendent Kansas State Hospital, Topeka: Referring to your favor of the 9th inst., relative to my observations and conclusions on the effect of Prohibition in its relation to its moral and material interests of Kansas, I will state that my personal opportunity for observation has been especially confined to its influence as a causative factor of insanity in the state. I am enclosing herewith clippings from the nineteenth and twentieth biennial reports of the Topeka State Hospital, wherein official report is made of my conclusions and observations.

In addition to the data recorded, I will state that during the past year, as a result of the bone-dry law, the number of alcoholic cases

that have been admitted have even been fewer than during the last biennial period. I do not believe it would exceed 1 per cent of the cases admitted.

The enclosures referred to by Dr. Biddle are the following:

ALCOHOLIC PSYCHOSES. *From Nineteenth Biennial Report Topeka State Hospital:*

Twenty-six cases, or 3.2 per cent of the 818 cases admitted during the biennial period, were forms of alcoholic mental disorders.

The diagnosis of alcoholic psychosis in this group of cases was based on findings that are generally recognized as due to the use of alcohol in its various forms; and not upon the alleged causes as reported in the commitment papers.

Much of special interest has been noted in the peculiarities of this group of cases. The well-known feature of hallucinosis has been observed in fifteen of the twenty-six cases. It has not been possible to obtain reliable family history in all cases, but eleven of the twenty-six were found to be members of alcoholic families.

There has been much discussion relative to the influence of prohibitory liquor laws on the frequency of insanity. Many of these claims both pro and con have been based on erroneous deductions and unsubstantiated facts. It is difficult to collect comparative data relating to this controversy that is free from elements of criticism. However, there are certain hospital statistics, based on the number of alcoholic types of insanity present, that are evidently reliable and hence are worthy of consideration. These are cases that have been carefully studied and classified under similar systems of classification in several hospitals. They do not include cases alleged or supposed to be caused by alcohol, but real cases of insanity, of alcoholic types.

It appears, therefore, that a comparison of the reports of the several hospitals throughout the country that base their reports on this system would be of real value in considering this question of widespread public interest. Unfortunately the reports of not many hospitals that conform to the system of classification followed in this report are at hand for purposes of comparison, but it seems worth while to review the comparative data on this important subject that is found in these reports. The following shows the percentage of diagnosed alcoholic insanities that were admitted to the several hospitals for the hospital year 1913:

	Per cent
Worcester (Mass.) State Hospital.....	9.6
Taunton (Mass.) State Hospital.....	11.6
Danvers (Mass.) State Hospital.....	11.7
Staunton (Va.) State Hospital.....	14.8
Peoria (Ill.) State Hospital.....	8.2
Mendota (Wis.) State Hospital.....	11.0
Buffalo (N. Y.) State Hospital.....	11.7
Middletown (N. Y.) State Hospital.....	11.5
Long Island (N. Y.) State Hospital	8.6
Gowanda (N. Y.) State Hospital.....	13.4
Topeka (Kan.) State Hospital (1913-'14).....	3.2

ALCOHOLIC PSYCHOSES. *From Twentieth Biennial Report, Topeka State Hospital:*

The number of patients admitted during the biennial period with alcoholic psychoses is 17. This is 2.1 per cent of all admissions, as compared with 3.2 per cent in the preceding biennial period. All of the 17 patients were males.

The clinical forms manifested were: Delirium tremens, 4; acute alcoholic hallucinosis, 4; alcoholic paranoia, 1; alcoholic hallucinatory dementia, 4; and chronic alcoholism, 4.

Fourteen of these were first admissions; three were readmissions. Four were foreign-born, while nine, or more than 50 per cent, were of foreign parentage. Fifty-three per cent of the patients, where a family history could be obtained, had parents or grandparents that drank to excess.

When compared with state hospital reports from other states, 2.1 per cent is a surprisingly small proportion of alcoholic insanity. It should be borne in mind in this connection that Kansas, unlike many states, has no state inebriate hospital nor county nor city hospital where acute alcoholic mental disturbances such as delirium tremens and alcoholic hallucinosis may be treated.

The Judiciary of Kansas Praise the Prohibition Law

There cannot be found a Supreme Court Judge or a District Judge in the state of Kansas or a Judge of any major court who is not an outspoken champion of the Prohibition law of that state. And not only that, but the last decade and probably the last two decades have not produced a Judge in the state who has not been outspoken in defense of the dry program. Ordinarily, a judge of a higher court is not prone to discuss publicly the propriety of this or that law, preferring to confine his deliverances as to such things from the bench in judicial opinions. But Kansas has been so outrageously lied about by liquor campaigners in other states that Kansas Judges have arisen to the defense of their state and in a most effective manner, just as though they were private citizens.

Some weeks ago, W. J. Herwig, Superintendent of the Kansas Department of the Anti-Saloon League of America, addressed an inquiry to the Judges of the Supreme Court and the District Judges of the state, asking their opinion as to the workings of the state-wide Prohibition statute. Without exception, the replies received are each a vigorous defense of the law and of the policy. Without attempting any synopsis or comment, the replies are given just as they were written and without comment:

THE SUPREME BENCH—CHIEF JUSTICE JOHNSTON DEFENDS THE DRY LAW

William A. Johnston, Chief Justice, Supreme Court. The Prohibition of the liquor traffic has had a marked effect in Kansas from its adoption. At the beginning it was enforced with some difficulty and was inoperative in some localities for a time. In a large part of the state, however, the law was enforced from its adoption and the beneficial effects were soon observed and appreciated by the people, with the result that neighboring communities insisted on enforcement and in sharing in the benefits of the measure. For a good many years, Prohibition has been well observed and efficiently enforced throughout the state. Through my connection with the judiciary, I have learned that Prohibition has promoted obedience to law and greatly reduced crime within the state. Very little time of the courts is now taken up with prosecutions and a criminal appeal in the Supreme Court is rare. Every observing man knows that this is due in a great measure to Prohibition. Since it became effective our people are not only more orderly, but they are more prosperous and contented. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have recently been contributed by our people for the welfare of American soldiers and sailors, and also for the victims of the great war in Belgium and France. They have given willingly and generously, and I have no doubt that the contributions, large as they have been, are only a small fraction of the amount that would have been expended for liquor if its sale had not been prohibited, and of amounts which are ordinarily spent for liquor in

states of equal population where the traffic is licensed. The moral and material interests of the state have both been wonderfully promoted by Prohibition.

JUSTICE MARSHALL'S EXPERIENCE OF THIRTY YEARS

John Marshall, Associate Justice, Supreme Court: I have lived in Kansas since 1870. Prohibition was adopted when I was a very young man. I have observed its workings from the time of its adoption up to the present time. Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas for the following reasons:

With Prohibition and increased strictness in the enforcement of the law has come decreased pauperism, drink, litigation and crime, increased attendance at Sunday school and church, and at common schools, high schools, and colleges; the public conscience has been quickened and our people have higher public ideals; corruption in politics has decreased until it is almost unknown. *I do not know of a single man who has grown from boyhood to manhood under Prohibition that has become an habitual drunkard.*

PREFER HARA-KIRI TO LICENSE

Judson S. West, Associate Justice, Supreme Court: Replying to your inquiry of the 9th as to whether the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas, I will say that I deem it impossible to reach any other conclusion than that they have been most decidedly helpful. All the members of our court have from time to time expressed similar views and doubtless in your files or records you will find copies of such expressions, as they have been published broadcast. The people of Kansas have noted the effect of enforced Prohibition and could no more be induced to go back to the old system than they could to adopt a constitutional provision authorizing hara-kiri.

SUCCESSFUL IN EVERY WAY

Henry F. Mason, Associate Justice, Supreme Court: I have your circular letter of the 9th, inquiring whether in my judgment the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas.

I have no doubt whatever that it has had that effect. In the earlier period of the law while the Prohibition was but partial and the enforcement in some localities lax, it at least did away in most communities with the open saloon and lessened the evils that follow from the liquor traffic. In recent years, as the Prohibition has become more and more complete and its rigid enforcement general, the traffic has been practically abolished and I think the results have been in every way such as to fulfill the expectations of those who favor the policy of the law and to refute the arguments of opponents.

NO QUESTION ABOUT IT

Delbert A. Valentine, Clerk, Supreme Court of Kansas: Kansas might have grown in morals, and prospered materially the past 36 years, under and in spite of the saloon; other states have. But, my judgment is that Prohibition has helped and speeded the onward movement almost beyond understanding. Cold-blooded statistics gathered by the general government prove it so far as dollars and cents are concerned. Social surveys, educational returns and church statistics seem to prove it from the other angle. Kansas people at every opportunity express their united and personal satisfaction with the results. There is no question but that the state is more prosperous and of higher grade morals because of Prohibition.

THE DISTRICT COURTS OF KANSAS HELPFUL IN EVERY WAY

THIRD DISTRICT, George H. Whitcomb, Judge, Topeka: I think the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful in every way in this state. It is true there are quite a good many violations of the liquor law by bootleggers and some increased criminal business on that account, but the benefits derived from the greatly restricted use of intoxicating liquor in the state far outweigh any such disadvantages. There is no doubt that public sentiment in this state is overwhelmingly in favor of Prohibition. This is shown in one way by the almost unanimous support given to the drastic dry legislation enacted by recent Legislatures. I think the time has gone by when any serious consideration would be given by any considerable number of people or by any legislative body in this state to any backward step in Prohibition.

A DEAD ISSUE IN KANSAS

FOURTH DISTRICT, C. A. Smart, Judge, Ottawa: I expect that question is still being debated outside of Kansas, but in Kansas it would seem to be a remarkably dead issue. Kansas would no more think of going back to the licensed saloon system than Massachusetts would vote to return to the institution of human slavery, and should anyone in this state who has hitherto borne a reputation for level-headedness suggest that Prohibition in Kansas has not been helpful to the best moral and material interests of the state, his hearers would glance at each other and tap their heads with the index finger and suggest that the poor fellow would soon find his way to the state asylum for the insane.

AN EXPERIENCE OF FORTY-TWO YEARS

SIXTH DISTRICT, Edward C. Gates, Judge, Ft. Scott: Replying to your favor of the 9th inst., in which you ask the question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests in Kansas?" Replying to this question, I answer emphatically, Yes.

I have lived in Kansas forty-two years and my observation and experience show that the rigid enforcement of this law makes for the welfare and upbuilding of the state; it lessens crime of all

kinds; protects the home; lightens to the taxpayer the burdens of maintaining our jails and penitentiary, and in every way conserves the morals and well-being of our people.

AN EMPHATIC AFFIRMATIVE

EIGHTH DISTRICT, *R. L. King, Judge, Marion*: I most emphatically answer in the affirmative to your question as to whether the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition in the state of Kansas has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of the state. The enforcement of the prohibitory law in the state, supplemented by the bone-dry law, in my opinion, has reduced the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage to the minimum. And this being so, but one conclusion can be drawn, and that is that the moral and material interests of the people have been greatly benefitted.

HOW PROHIBITION PROMOTED PROSPERITY

TENTH DISTRICT, *Jabez O. Rankin, Judge, Paola*: My observation leads me to conclude that the prohibitory policy in the state of Kansas has increased the value of property, for the reason that people prefer to live and raise families under cleaner surroundings, and hence property values have been enhanced in that degree. The industries of the state have been favorably affected by the fact that workingmen do not spend their money for intoxicants and are better fitted to perform labor and work more regularly. Crime and drunkenness have very greatly decreased; our criminals are largely from a class of floaters who drift into this state from other communities. The percentage of crime from residents of this part of the state is very small. Our people are more prosperous, as shown by the fact that they live better, educate their children better, and have more of the comforts of life.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT, *A. T. Ayres, Judge, El Dorado*: The adoption and maintenance of Prohibition in Kansas has been very helpful to the moral and material interests of the people of said state. This, in fact, is no longer an open question, and anyone who does question the same in any way, does so either wilfully and with intention to mislead, or is absolutely ignorant as to the facts. The commission of crime has been reduced in a very large measure and as a result thereof the expense to the people in the administration of the courts on the criminal side are very greatly reduced.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, *Joseph W. Holdren, Judge, Independence*: In my opinion the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas.

Before assuming the responsibility of my present position I was assistant county attorney of this county for eight years, and in my opinion 70 per cent of the criminal acts in this county could be traced to the influence of intoxicating liquors.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT, *Division No. 1, Richard E. Bird, Judge, Wichita*: As I have been on the bench but a few months, I would not care to give an expression from the standpoint of a

Judge on the subject you suggest in your letter. Personally, I am heartily in favor of state-wide and nation-wide Prohibition from every standpoint, and especially am I thankful to raise my children in a Prohibition state.

FOUR BIG REASONS

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT, *Division No. 2, Thornton W. Sargent, Judge, Wichita*: Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas?" I would answer this question most emphatically in the affirmative as to being helpful to both the best moral and material interests of the people of Kansas. The following are a few of my reasons for answering your question in this way:

First. Drunkenness has almost entirely disappeared in Kansas. What little traffic there is in intoxicating liquors is outlawed so that it is compelled to hide in secret places. The sale of such liquors is so beset with difficulties that the ordinary person does not know where to get it and it is only the confirmed and experienced drinker who does know. The small amount of drinking that is done in Kansas is almost exclusively confined to the older men who acquired the habit before the law was strictly enforced in the larger cities. The large majority of children in Kansas do not know what a saloon is except from hearsay.

Second. As drunkenness has decreased in Kansas so have crimes decreased. This is quite noticeable in the courts in the administration of the criminal law.

Third. Instead of spending their money for intoxicating liquors, people spend their money for food and clothing. The business men who formerly thought a strict enforcement of the prohibitory law would injure business have changed their minds and say that business has been helped by the enforcement of such law. The business men who were formerly opposed to the prohibitory law are now among its strongest supporters for purely business reasons, to say nothing of the moral phase of the question.

Fourth. The health of the people has improved by the lessening of the diseases which were due to the use of intoxicating liquors.

SOME HAVE EARS WHO DON'T HEAR

NINETEENTH DISTRICT, *O. P. Fuller, Judge, Winfield*: The beneficial effect of the dry policy is so patent, as applied to every branch of property and morals, that to specialize would, it seems to me, be but an effort to convince those, having eyes who would not see—and having ears but would not hear.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT, *D. A. Banta, Judge, Great Bend*: In this city where the saloon and joint has been displaced by tearing down cheap structures and the erection of splendid buildings, all of which are occupied by flourishing business concerns, has had the effect of enhancing values twofold.

Industry, which, under the old regime, was lagging, causing the streets to be peopled with loafers and idle men, has taken on an impetus that calls for all the idle men that are willing to work,

and the loafer has been brought to see the importance and necessity for employment and is at work supporting his family.

Crime in this section of Kansas has decreased fully 75 per cent. When the saloon and joint were with us, crime was so prevalent that the court dockets were crowded with criminal cases of all classes, and the time of the courts was occupied about one-third of the time in disposing of that end of the docket. There are three counties in this district, and it does not require nearly as much time to dispose of all criminal cases in the three counties as it formerly did in any one of them.

It is rare, indeed, that an intoxicated person is seen in public, where formerly it was common, and since the enactment of the bone-dry law last winter, I do not recall seeing a single individual under the influence of liquor.

WATCHED THE LAW NINETEEN YEARS

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT, *William I. Stuart, Judge, Hiawatha*: I have been on the bench in the 22nd judicial district of Kansas for 19 years, and during that time the Prohibition law has been enforced as well as, if not better, than the other criminal laws on our statute books. Throughout this judicial district in that time, and especially in the last 15 years, there has been a vigorous prosecution of the violation of the Prohibition law, and the consequences have been that there have been no joints, no saloons, and no places for evil associates to congregate. Men who formerly spent the most of their weekly wage for liquor have devoted their earnings to the support of their families, who are more comfortable and far happier. I have known many, many young men of 25 years of age who have never seen the inside of a saloon, their habits have become fixed, and they are now beyond the danger of temptation. The violation of other criminal laws are less frequent in my opinion, for the reason that many other crimes were committed, which would not have otherwise been done, because the person committing the offense was under the influence of intoxicating liquors. The sentiment for Prohibition has increased until now it is almost unanimous, not only in this judicial district but throughout the entire state of Kansas.

THE SALOON A CURIOSITY

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT, *J. C. Ruppenthal, Judge, Russell*: Your several inquiries to me as a lawyer, Judge and chairman of the District Judges' Association of Kansas for ten years, have reached me on the question, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best morals and material interest of Kansas?" Nearly forty years of Prohibition of the saloon has given us a generation of men and women now in middle life who never saw an open saloon or legalized sale of intoxicants, except when they were outside of the state. We have another generation coming on, some of them already in young manhood and womanhood who not only know nothing of personal contact with legalized liquor traffic, but who are children of parents who went through childhood to maturity under Prohibition in

Kansas. It has been a great educational factor to have before the people at all times by reason of the law and its enforcement, the admonition of temperance, self-control, and the duty to limit and restrain the appetites. The number of persons engaged in violating or attempting to violate the law has steadily decreased until now it is extremely small, and prosecutions for this crime are becoming more and more rare because unnecessary to a large degree. The people are largely freed from the physical injury of drunkenness, are more capable of efficient work, and do not waste their wealth on liquor.

I came here as a boy in 1877 with my parents. After 1880 I never saw a saloon nor a joint until my duties as county attorney led me to hunt them out. I have one son 22 years old in the Army and another 16 years old. They have never seen saloons except as (to them) curiosities in other states.

TWENTY-NINTH DISTRICT, *W. H. McCamish, Judge, Kansas City*: Replying to your question as to my opinion on whether the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas, I most unhesitatingly say "Yes."

Drunkenness, vagrancy and crime have decreased in a striking degree, as attested by our court records. Rents are paid better, collections easier and savings have increased. Standards of life are on a higher moral plane, and we have a prosperously constructed, happy, law-abiding generation of young Kansans, who have never seen a drunken man excepting as his uncertain trail has occasionally led him from Missouri or other wet territory.

THIRTY-FIRST DISTRICT, *L. M. Day, Judge, Greensburg*: In reply to your inquiry, "Has the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas?" my answer is yes—both to the moral and material interest.

As to the moral, it has lessened crime more than 50 per cent; it has made happy homes, lessened the divorce evil, and given food and clothing to the families and the workingman.

As to the material interest, it has increased the per capita wealth of the Kansas people over 100 per cent, over the now Prohibition states of Missouri and Nebraska, which are as rich in natural resources as Kansas.

HARD ON THE JAIL BUSINESS

THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT, *Albert S. Foulks, Judge, Ness City*: It is my opinion, based upon long residence within the state of Kansas and considerable experience in criminal courts, that the prohibitory law of this state has worked a wonderful revolution both in a moral and material way. The amount of criminal work on our courts has been gradually decreasing for a number of years. The recent enactment of the bone-dry law has reduced what criminal business I have had in my courts at least 50 per cent.

In the nine counties in which I hold court not more than three of the jails are occupied at this time by prisoners, and these three have only one occupant each.

WANTED—ONE ADVERSE REASON

THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT, *Oscar Foust, Judge*: I located in the city of Iola, Allen county, Kansas, in February, 1883, and continuously since have resided here; until March, 1903, I was actively engaged in the practice of law, and since then have been Judge of the 37th Judicial District of Kansas, composed of Allen and Woodson counties; and I have noticed the growth of public sentiment favorable to Prohibition. In the early days of Prohibition it was difficult to convict parties of its violation; there were a considerable number of persons who were antagonistic to the enforcement of the law, many of them basing their opposition upon the specious pretext that it violated their personal liberties and the like; we heard a constant clamor from this class for re-submission; however, as the great benefits of Prohibition became manifest, this clamor subsided, and now, no political party will ever suggest re-submission, and no person seeking political preferment would think of advocating re-submission; but on the contrary, all parties favor the strict enforcement of the law; and upon competent evidence, juries will convict as readily as in any other class of criminal actions.

My observations lead me to the conclusion that a large majority of the crimes committed are directly traceable to the demon rum; that a considerable proportion of the too many divorce cases (another threatening menace to our civilization) are directly or indirectly traceable to the same cause—as this evil becomes eliminated, it tends to lessen the numbers in our jails and our poor-houses; thus not only benefitting the unfortunate victims of strong drink and their families, but the public as well—thereby promoting the “best moral and material interests of Kansas.” Thus briefly stated are some among the many reasons that might be given for an affirmative answer to the question suggested.

In this same connection, I desire to say that it is absolutely incomprehensible to me, that *one good and reasonable objection* should be made to the principle of Prohibition.

Kansas County Attorneys on the Prohibition Law

The original Prohibition law of Kansas went into effect on May 1, 1881. That was the beginning of a series of enactments designed to enforce the Prohibition amendment and to combat the lawless intrigues of the liquor interests who, with much ingenuity, sought to thwart the will of the people and to continue the traffic regardless of law. Some of the provisions tried out did not work well and were repealed. Others were fortified with amendments. The last law placed on the statute books was the stringent bone-dry law enacted early in 1917.

Late in 1917, W. J. Herwig, Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Kansas, sent out a letter of inquiry to all county attorneys of the state asking their opinion of the effect that the dry policy had upon the state. County attorneys, having charge of the criminal prosecutions in their counties, are in a special degree fitted to speak authoritatively upon such a question. Of the thirty replies received, every one without exception were loud in their praises of the state-wide Prohibition law in general, and most of them especially commended the bone-dry law in particular. The replies of all of these officials are here given, arranged in alphabetical order by counties:

EVERYBODY KNOWS IT

BARTON COUNTY, *Clyde Allphin, County Attorney, Great Bend*: The prohibitory liquor law is violated, of course, as are the laws against murder and theft, but who would say these laws are not a success. There are bootleggers as there are thieves, but negligible in number.

There is and can be no legitimate argument in favor of liquor. One would think this question settled by the agitation caused by the great world war. The government knows it; the army knows it; the state knows it; cities know it; the people know it, but the cry for revenue keeps the subject alive, though it is dying. Liquor kills industry; breeds crime, contempt and insanity; breaks up homes, and causes untold misery. Indisputable facts.

Absence of liquor stimulates and fosters industry; decreases crime and drunkenness; increases bank accounts; enhances property values; makes money for legitimate purposes; makes happy homes for wives, sons and daughters; decreases divorce; checks insanity; makes stronger men and women; saves money to state, county and individuals; creates a cleaner atmosphere of environment; makes better schools and churches; makes the world a better place to live in. Indisputable facts. This is true in Barton county as everywhere else.

A "MOST COMPLETE SUCCESS"

BOURBON COUNTY, *W. F. Jackson, County Attorney, Ft. Scott*: In my opinion the long continued fight in this state to completely put intoxicating liquors and the traffic in the same entirely

on the outside of our boundary, has, at this time, been crowned with most complete success. For a long time the effort to get rid of booze was not honest and sincere, but the good women of this state and a few consecrated men have kept up the fight all along and finally created a public sentiment so determined and strong that even booze and the money that attends upon its effort to spread poverty and destruction over the land could not withstand it.

I served four years as prosecuting officer in this city and am serving my second term as county attorney of this county and the traffic in intoxicating liquors is a thing of the past, bootleggers are seldom ever heard of again and a drunken man is most rare and really we hardly know there is such stuff as intoxicating liquor in the land. This condition has a wholesome effect upon property values, it produces greater industry among citizens formerly using the stuff and crime and drunkenness has dwindled very greatly. In our criminal courts we see a very marked difference since we have no liquor and our citizens would not consider for a moment a return to conditions of ten or fifteen years ago. A proposition to have saloons in Kansas would not get votes enough in this county worth considering and all such would come from a few old toppers who have not yet passed out into the gloom of the next existence.

IN THE HEART OF THE OIL BOOM

BUTLER COUNTY, *R. T. McCluggage, County Attorney, El Dorado*: Conditions in Butler county are unusual. From a quiet and peaceful agricultural community Butler county has recently been transformed into a center of industrial activity. El Dorado and environs has indeed become the "Land of Gold," for the greatest pool of petroleum in the world is by the alchemy of the refinery transmuted into the gold of the commercial world.

For a time immediately subsequent to the initial oil boom here there was a big increase in liquor consumption. In fact, it seemed that Prohibition might again fail "to prohibit." But the reaction of Butler county's puritan conscience and vigorous official action have taught numerous oil field workers that Prohibition is more than a myth, and many of them who heretofore have saved nothing and were but a step removed from pauperism are now industrially independent. Drunkenness has been reduced to a minimum. Crimes are largely of the misdemeanor class. In fact, during eleven months as public prosecutor not a single murder so far as I know has been consummated here. Nor have I been called upon to prosecute a murder case. Industry is humming. Property values are soaring. In this greatest oil field of the world liquor is not going to lessen our efficiency in the prosecution of the war. Democracy without booze holds sway here and everyone is doing his part to assist in democratizing the world in the interest of humanity.

THEY FOUGHT IT OUT IN CLAY

CLAY COUNTY, *Oscar E. Peterson, County Attorney*: I have been a resident of this county for thirty years and during that time have observed the effect of Prohibition locally. In an early day the law was practically a dead letter, every town having

one or more joints running almost wide open, and under those conditions arrests for drunkenness were frequent, sometimes as many as a half-dozen in this city in a single night, and street brawls and fights were exceedingly common, a few of which resulted fatally. But during the last decade when the law has been enforced rigidly crimes against the person such as homicide, assault with intent to kill, and assault and battery, generally brought on by liquor, have not been reduced to a minimum.

We have not had a murder case here for more than seven years, and during the eleven months that I have served in the capacity of county attorney there has not been a single complaint filed charging assault of any kind, notwithstanding that this county has a population of fifteen thousand inhabitants. I ascribe this showing more to Prohibition than any other cause.

There has been a steady increase in the value of all kinds of property chiefly due to a uniform prosperity resulting from thrift and industry impaired by the baleful effects of intemperance. Facts and figures could easily be adduced showing the good which has resulted from Prohibition, but they are not needed. So far as concerns this county, the high moral standard of the people, their uniform prosperity and the almost total absence of pauperism and crime should be sufficient to convince any rational mind of the beneficent influence of this law.

The recent enactment of the so-called bone-dry law was a fitting climax toward vindicating the policy of Prohibition pursued by this state for thirty-seven years. Under such restriction it cannot be long until drunkenness and the debauchery resulting therefrom will be a thing of the past.

THE ARGUMENT IS CLOSED

COFFEY COUNTY, *E. J. Cragó, County Attorney, Burlington*: I have been county attorney of Coffey county, at intervals representing every phase of the prohibitory evolution of Kansas. I have had to enforce the prohibitory law when public opinion but weakly supported its enforcement; when public opinion was tentatively rallying in its favor; and, finally, when public opinion would not countenance its violation. In the relation of Prohibition to property values, industry, crime and drunkenness, in Coffey county, at least, the argument is closed and the bone-dry law is but the punch in the people's verdict, the meaning of which no one doubts.

DECATUR COUNTY, *J. P. Noble, County Attorney, Oberlin*: My judgment is that Prohibition policy of Kansas has greatly advanced our schools and educational institutions, churches and civilization generally. It has greatly assisted in the progress and development of this state. The bone-dry law is of great benefit and assistance in the enforcement of the prohibitory laws. It has increased the value of property.

HOW DOUGLASS WAS CIVILIZED

DOUGLASS COUNTY, *J. B. Wilson, County Attorney, Lawrence*: In my judgment the various beneficiary effects of this series of wholesome laws, in this county, are so great as to baffle any-

thing like adequate speech. Moreover, of course, it is impossible to make exact measurement of the progress and benefits immediately flowing from such a series of legislation.

However, it is unquestionably true that in land values, Douglas county has passed, in the 37 years' experience with these laws, from a rural community of farm lands worth from \$5 to \$50 per acre to a prosperous, thickly settled county of farm lands worth from \$50 to \$500 per acre, varying in proportion to proximity to the county seat, the city of Lawrence. The city of Lawrence itself has grown from a rural village of a few thousand inhabitants, practically without modern conveniences, to a city of some twelve or thirteen thousand inhabitants, with every modern convenience, now known to city life. So far as public improvements are concerned, a cleaner town with better residences and a more morally and physically healthful situation can scarcely be found.

Thirty-seven years ago, Lawrence had one or two main industries, one of which was a brewery, dispensing at the very best a useless article which consumed the income of many of its inhabitants in various ways. Now Lawrence has some fifteen or twenty active industries, all of which pay liberal wages, practically every dollar of which is spent for substantial things in this life, including the improvement of homes, the paying of liberal taxes for public improvements and community benefits.

Before Kansas adopted Prohibition, fight, quarrels, thefts, burglaries and even murders were common in Douglas county, and drunken brawls were an every day and every night occurrence. The criminal end of the court docket was the heaviest portion thereof for each term. The criminal law practice was much sought and was very lucrative. Men of property and wealth were, through the use of liquor, driven into crime, and paid attorneys large fees for defense. Today the trial of criminal cases in each term of court is a matter of but a very, very few days. The criminal law practice in this county is almost a negligible quantity. There are but few law violators left and they are the shiftless class that cannot pay fees. Even the police court goes many days in session without a single drunk.

ELLSWORTH COUNTY, Samuel E. Bartlett, County Attorney, Ellsworth: The enforcement of the prohibitory law in this county has resulted in better business for the merchants, more money for the laborers, more prompt payment of rent to the landlords, fewer bad bills, more happy homes, and less crime. The reduction of crime in this county, as a result of the bone-dry law, may conservatively be placed at from 50 to 75 per cent.

THE REJUVENATION OF HUMAN LIFE

FINNEY COUNTY, A. Schulman, County Attorney, Garden City: The dry policy of the state of Kansas has visualized into an actual realization by its beneficial and goodly influences an engendered thrift, industry, sobriety and viril manhood over the fertile fields of Kansas since the law of Prohibition has become the very part of the life of our state. This fact, well known to every true Kansan, has been made more apparent and certain by

the passage of the bone-dry law. This law has made Prohibition true in the real sense of the word. The man, who had continuously debauched his physical and moral self with the hideous effect of over-drinking, is now a sober, industrious man; a good citizen, where before, he had been a mere derelict; and a good father and husband, where before he had been a brute and a slobbering, blubbering piece of humanity. This is not a mere camouflage of rhetoric. There is especially a marked disappearance of the camouflage since the bone-dry law went into effect. I have seen a number of men, who were always under the heavy influence of liquor before the bone-dry law went into effect, pitiful sights, now always sober and industrious men.

CRIME REDUCED FIFTY PER CENT

GEARY COUNTY, *L. B. Morris, County Attorney, Junction City*: I have made a search of the criminal records of this city, with the view of comparing the number of felony cases which arose previous to the strict enforcement of the liquor laws, and since that time, and especially since the enactment of the so-called bone-dry law. I find that the crime of a serious grade now, as compared to the number during an earlier period twenty years ago, is very little over 50 per cent, and this even though the community has increased in population quite materially, and we are at this time daily visited by great numbers of the soldiers from Ft. Riley and Camp Funston.

DRINKERS ADMIT SUCCESS

GOVE COUNTY, *E. F. Beckner, County Attorney, Gove*: Any fair-minded man living in Kansas for the past thirty-seven years or coming, as I did, from a wet state (Kentucky) to the Prohibition state of Kansas, is impressed with the beneficent effects of Prohibition; in fact, they are so evident that it seems strange that it would require argument to convince some people. A great majority of the people, in this section, who are known as the drinkers, will admit that the fact that Kansas is a Prohibition state has increased the value of properties, encouraged industry and decreased crime and drunkenness. What better proof should be needed?

GRANT COUNTY, *H. W. Stubbs, County Attorney, New Ulysses*: While the effect of the dry policy has perhaps been less noticeable in these sparsely settled communities than in the large cities and centers of population; the effect nevertheless has been to advance property values, to increase industry, and to very materially lessen drunkenness and crime. In fact, the effect has been to almost abolish drunkenness and crime in this particular locality; and we cannot speak too highly of the effects of Prohibition. The present law is most admirable and has really served to prohibit.

NINETY-EIGHT PER CENT FOR NATIONAL PROHIBITION

GREELEY COUNTY, *Clement L. Wilson, County Attorney, Tribune*: In my judgment Prohibition in Kansas is successful, we

have had but one case to prosecute since January 1, and that was two drunken rowdies passing through the state and off at the division station. We got the booze and put them in jail, but we haven't been bothered with anyone since. I believe that 98 per cent of the people in Greeley county will support the national Prohibition question that is now before Congress. I don't know that the dry policy has in any way affected values or industries, but it has lessened crime, and drunkenness is practically unknown within the past eight months, and I think eight months more will clean it up entirely.

PROVEN BY THIRTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE

GREENWOOD COUNTY, *W. S. Marlin, County Attorney, Eureka*: I think that the Prohibition policy is the most efficient remedial and constructive agent the Kansas people have ever adopted into their law. This measure has resulted in increased property values, has promoted industry, and has reduced drunkenness and crime. Materially, Kansas is richer by reason of Prohibition, and better, too. Kansas has education and social advantages it could not enjoy under the saloon system. When I came to Kansas in 1884, public opinion was divided as to the merits of constitutional Prohibition, and many able, conscientious men then believed that the high license system is preferable. Now with the added evidence of over thirty years' experience under Prohibition, any man who decries Prohibition is rightly deemed to be greatly prejudiced and such a one is with a very small minority. In fact, Prohibition is a settled policy in this part of Kansas.

THE GREATEST THING EVER

HASKELL COUNTY, *C. G. Dennis, County Attorney, Sublette*: In regard to Prohibition I will say that in my judgment it is the greatest thing for Kansas that we have ever voted. I think that it has lessened crime, increased property values and in fact has materially bettered almost every home and institution in the state. I will be glad when the time comes when we have national Prohibition.

JEWELL COUNTY, *C. Clyde Myers, County Attorney, Mankato*: In my judgment the bone-dry law has greatly diminished all kinds of petty disturbances such as disturbances of the peace and drunkenness, and similar offenses. Drunkenness is practically a thing of the past, and the people are more steady in their industry. The bone-dry law is the great thing.

KINGMAN COUNTY, *Clark A. Wallace, County Attorney, Kingman*: We are very well pleased with the dry policy here, and while this county has never been unduly burdened with criminal prosecutions, I believe I am safe in saying that the bone-dry law has reduced criminal prosecutions here 50 per cent.

A HIGHER STANDARD OF MORALS

MARION COUNTY, *Roscoe King, County Attorney, Marion*: We have over twenty-two thousand people in this county with about one to two cases in two years covering assaults, murder or

quarrels and disturbances such as generally arise where liquor is used. Where liquor is easily obtained and being drunk on every hand in many men base nature stands out ready to do its dirty work.

My judgment is that Prohibition in this county, and likewise all over the state, procures a higher standard of morals in the community and very materially lessens the violation of law and reduces to a minimum those serious cases of assault and murder committed by men fired by whisky with a reckless disregard for law and the rights of their fellowmen. I believe it the experience of most peace officers that men take liquor to deaden their natural sense of responsibility and to excite an unnatural state of mind in furtherance of their design to do a bad job.

ONE LUNATIC FROM A SALOON TOWN

MEADE COUNTY, *C. C. Wilson, County Attorney, Meade:* I fully believe property values in this town are 50 per cent higher than with saloons; crime is 90 per cent less than with open saloons. I have just been in a town in Indiana on business, the same size as this. Its jail is full and always is. We have not had a prisoner this year, except one transient lunatic overnight. He came from a saloon town. Our industrial efficiency is at least 50 per cent better than the Indiana town. No reason for difference, except the saloon; I investigated just for my own satisfaction. We have no more drunkenness. We are really dry.

LIQUOR IS DEAD IN KANSAS

MIAMI COUNTY, *Karl V. Shawver, County Attorney, Paola:* I have watched the abolition of the saloon and its accompanying vices, and, in my younger days, I wondered how the great physical properties would be replaced and the saloon buildings and dives be rented. In other words, how some of the owners, sometimes widows, would be able to realize from the wreck. Today, in this county, we have many more and better buildings all occupied by picture shows, ten-cent stores, cream stations and clothes cleaning establishments in the place of saloons. I have been connected with law enforcement as city attorney of Osawatomie and county attorney here since my graduation in 1912, have never seen a drunk man on our streets, though I have prosecuted and convicted many bootleggers and, this spring, many bone-dry violators. The bone-dry law has nearly driven booze to its last stand. Sometimes one will smell a lemon extract breath, but liquor is dead in Kansas and property, stock, everything on the boom, hard to buy. Where liquor is, property values are uncertain.

THE PEOPLE ARE SATISFIED

NESS COUNTY, *A. W. Wilson, County Attorney, Ness City:* No joints or open violations of the prohibitory have existed in Ness county for more than fifteen years, but the shipment for "personal use" continued more or less until the bone-dry law came into effect. Since then, there is no evidence of use of intoxicants at all. The people are satisfied. Those who were slaves to the

habit are sober and are out-spoken in their gratitude to the law for freeing them from temptation. The operation of the bone-dry law is an absolute success, and we marvel that it was so long in coming.

NORTON COUNTY, L. H. Wildee, County Attorney, Norton: I should think that there is no doubt but that this law has caused a continuously increasing decrease in the use of intoxicating liquors from the time it was first enacted to the present time; however, I think that the most noticeable effect has taken place and has been observable since the enactment of bone-dry law. Before that time liquors could be shipped into the state for personal use, under this law, however, it is unlawful for one to have them in his possession, and many persons in this community who were in the habit of using intoxicating liquors to an excess, the use of which was shown on their faces, have been compelled to desist from the use of such liquors, and the effect is most observable in their appearance.

FORMER DRINKERS REJOICE

OSBORNE COUNTY, J. K. Mitchell, County Attorney, Osborne: The prohibition policy and the bone-dry law of Kansas have reduced drunkenness and crime in this section of Kansas to the minimum. Property values have steadily advanced for several years last past and practically everyone able and willing to work has been able to get employment at remunerative wages. Most of those formerly addicted to drink rejoice now that they can no longer easily obtain intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

RENO COUNTY, Herbert E. Ramsey, County Attorney, Hutchinson: Both crime and drunkenness have, in my estimation, been considerably less in Kansas than it has been in wet territory, and since our bone-dry law has gone into effect, it has practically done away with our list of petty crimes and there is practically no drunkenness. People are in better conditions financially and attend to their business better.

RUSH COUNTY, Frank U. Russell, Acting County Attorney, LaCrosse: Under a bone-dry condition in Kansas, we have put in more light plants, water works systems and more paving and sidewalks than ever before in the history of Kansas, during a similar period. We have no drunks, fewer insane, fewer paupers, and our jails are empty except when an occasional I. W. W. is incarcerated. No police are needed for our out-door gatherings, no matter how many thousands of people congregate. Our women are happy, our children clothed and clean and all in school, and idle men are unknown so far as our resident population is concerned. Crime has vanished from most of the counties of the state, and money was never so plenty in the banks as during the last year or two. Prosperity smiles on a people, sober and happy, loving God and man, and busy with a multitude of useful works. The bone-dry policy is the best business investment in the world, as well as an instrument of mighty moral uplift.

RICE COUNTY, L. E. Quintan, County Attorney, Lyons: Since the state of Kansas and particularly Rice county has been

under the "Prohibition in Kansas" regime the progress has been marked; real estate values have increased; and since the bone-dry law has been in effect crime and drunkenness have been reduced practically to a minimum in this country.

DRINKERS THREW UP THEIR HANDS

SCOTT COUNTY, *W. H. Russell, County Attorney, Scott City*: I have lived in Kansas throughout its Prohibition policy, and can speak from experience of the whole thirty-seven years, and I know that the people are more home-loving, more industrious, and in every way better citizens than in any other community that I have ever been in, and for a number of years I traveled over the whole of the United States, so I am able to speak from a comparative standpoint.

Property values are greater than in any like community where a wet policy is in force. We have no drunkenness and no crimes growing out of drunkenness in this community. I have not seen a man under the influence of liquor for months in this county. In fact, 95 per cent of the former drinkers have simply thrown up their hands, and quit making any effort whatever to obtain intoxicating liquors of any character, and men who formerly drank told me that when they go to Kansas City with cattle or on other business they pass up the saloons entirely and never think of taking a drink.

SHERMAN COUNTY, *Elmer E. Euwer, County Attorney, Goodland*: Of course, I am a staunch supporter of Prohibition, and in my judgment the effect of the dry policy has been to increase property values, although some will not agree, but I find that in the city where the saloon has been and is now no more, that those who predicted ruin are glad that Prohibition has come, and that the building formerly occupied by the saloon, now has the meat market, grocery, or some other useful and helpful industry in its place.

As county attorney of this county, covering a period from May 1, 1916, to the present time, I can with authority inform you that crime in my jurisdiction is on the decrease and drunkenness is rarely found, and in my investigations the fact has been revealed, that the patent medicine is the cause of most cases of drunkenness.

STEVENS COUNTY, *W. E. Eddy, County Attorney, Hugoton*: Although I have had only to deal officially in this southwest county, where we have never been bothered so to speak with the whisky traffic, I do find that the dryer the laws are made, the better our community is to live in, and the less work a county attorney has to do to earn his salary, and I do not believe anyone will complain about that—even a county attorney.

CRIME REDUCED NINETY PER CENT

SUMNER COUNTY, *E. J. Taggart, County Attorney, Wellington*: It is hard for me to intelligently estimate the effect of Prohibition on property values and industry. I have no doubt that the effect of Prohibition has been beneficial along these lines, but

I have nothing to use as a comparison by which I can estimate the effect on property values and industry generally.

I can, however, compare the effects of the bone-dry law and think that it is safe to say that it has reduced crime and drunkenness in this section of the state fully 90 per cent.

THOMAS COUNTY, *R. H. Garvey, County Attorney, Colby*: The best recommendation for Prohibition that I know of, is that most of the people who themselves use liquor, freely admit that the bone-dry law is a good thing. Only a few degenerates, some bull-headed Germans, and an occasional cynic, like our town jester, Dodd Gaston, cast unfavorable opinions at it. As to its effect upon property values, industry, crime and drunkenness, it is impossible for Prohibition to be other than good. Banks don't lend money to drunkards.

TREGO COUNTY, *John R. Parsons, County Attorney, Wa Keeney*: First, that it preserves the public health. We have specific instances of parties who drank to excess and at the same time were ill, but since the liquor has been taken away entirely are apparently in good health; second, less numbers are before the police court for petty offenses. Third, families wherein the father drank, appear in public better dressed. Fourth, the children look better fed. Fifth, the general social atmosphere is cleaner and more wholesome.

-DRUNKENNESS A NOVELTY

WILSON COUNTY, *W. H. Edmundson, Deputy County Attorney, Fredonia*: Prohibition in Kansas has resulted in increasing property values and removing a great cause of destruction, and by rendering all buildings available for legitimate use; has promoted industry by making it difficult, if not impossible, for men to incapacitate themselves for labor. Crime and drunkenness ordinarily walk hand in hand, and any influence that reduces the amount of drunkenness, consequently reduces the crime of any given community.

The prohibitory laws of Kansas have made drunkenness in Wilson county a novelty, and in Fredonia, since the bone-dry law went into effect, the fines in police court have not been sufficient to pay the salary of the police judge. The long list of crimes that grow out of and attend the excessive use of intoxicants, has almost disappeared.

One Hundred and Eight Kansas Bankers Praise Prohibition Law

The bank is the nerve center of any community. In case of prosperity, the banker is first to notice it. The banker first scents depression and begins to call in his loans. The bank is the censor of credit and the barometer of business activity. It is his business to watch out for what is good for the community as well as for the individual. He is a qualified expert as to the effect of public policies upon the welfare of the people. Welfare for the people spells welfare for his bank. Hence he seeks the welfare of the people.

Having this in mind, recently W. J. Herwig, Superintendent of the Kansas Department of the Anti-Saloon League of America, wrote to the president of every bank in Kansas, asking them the following question:

"Has the policy of state-wide Prohibition been helpful to the commercial and industrial development of Kansas, and to what extent?"

One hundred and eight replies were received.

Of the 108 replies, without a single exception, EVERY ONE enthusiastically praised the state-wide dry law.

In all Kansas, not a single banker could be found who would say that Prohibition had failed—NOT ONE.

Each one seemed to vie with the other in sounding the praises of what the dry law had accomplished for the state.

There is not a prophet or preacher of Prohibition anywhere in the country who has claimed any more for Prohibition than these cold-blooded bankers say HAS BEEN accomplished by it in Kansas.

The following are the replies received from the 108 bankers arranged alphabetically by towns and cities:

KANSAS TO THE CORE

AGRA, *First State Bank, L. E. Horner, Cashier*: I am a Kansas man. I attended the State Agricultural and the State Normal and then I went to the Gem City Business College in Quincy, Ill., and spent a year in business in Excelsior Springs, Mo. And in Quincy and Excelsior Springs they had open saloons and I am very much opposed to the saloon in every way and state-wide Prohibition is a right move in everything pertaining to commercial and industrial development.

ALMENA, *First National Bank, Andrew Dyatt, Pres.*: This bank, and all of its officers, stand for Prohibition, first, last and all the time; while there are some things that have not held good, on the whole we believe it a success.

ALTA VISTA, *Alta Vista State Bank, A. H. Meseke, Pres.*: From observations extending over a period of nearly 23 years in the banking business in Kansas I know that state-wide Prohibition in Kansas has been a great benefit to its people in the way of advancement in civilization, morally, physically and financially. I

have seen open saloons in Kansas years ago, when families of the drunkard were shabbily clothed and actually went hungry. None of this now exists from the cause of booze, as it cannot be had at any price.

ANTHONY, *Citizens' National Bank, P. O. Herold, Pres.*: I believe that Prohibition has been very helpful to the commercial and industrial development of Kansas. To what extent I could not answer, but, from my observation in Kansas and in wide-open states I should say that from 200 per cent to 300 per cent in Kansas than in states where there are open saloons.

ATCHISON NOW APPROVES

ATCHISON, *Commercial Trust Company, Sheffield Ingalls, Pres.*: In reply to yours of 9th inst., I answer not hurriedly but none the less emphatically, in the affirmative. That is to say, in my opinion, the adoption and maintenance of Prohibition has been helpful to the best moral and material interests of Kansas.

This observation, of course, does not cover a period longer back than the first administration of Governor Stubbs. Prohibition in Kansas prior to that time, was a farce of the rankest kind because the law was not enforced. Because of that fact, it did much to break down the moral and material interests of Kansas. Since it has been put into effective operation, I feel confident in saying that regardless of one's personal feeling in the matter, the operation of the law has been beneficial.

KANSAS CITY, *Union State Bank, R. J. Grover, Vice Pres.*: I am proud of the fact that I am a native son of Kansas, that during my lifetime of thirty-eight years, I have never seen an open saloon in our borders. It is a source of satisfaction to me to know that a number of our Kansas boys have never been in a saloon operated in the state of Kansas.

I was interested in a few statistics I saw in one of our local papers in regard to the soldier boys now in the United States Army from Kansas. It showed a much larger per cent in comparison with other states in the physical, mental and moral standing of the troops.

BAXTER, *Baxter National Bank, C. Mau, Cashier*: In my opinion, Prohibition has done more to build up and improve every desirable condition, in homes, schools and every line of legitimate business than all else in the state.

BENNINGTON, *Bennington State Bank, J. H. Nelson, Pres.*: I think "THE POLICY OF STATE-WIDE PROHIBITION" has been helpful both socially and financially. I believe as the result of its extension that our community is 50 per cent better than it was formerly.

BIRD CITY, *Bird City State Bank, C. W. Trickett, Pres.*: Prohibition has been one of the best things for this western country that ever happened, especially since it went bone-dry our people are more than pleased with it.

BURLINGAME, *Pioneer State Bank, Clyde B. Crumb, Asst. Cashier*: The old prohibitory laws of Kansas helped the state a

great deal more than we could realize, but it did not actually prohibit and there was some drinking and consequently poverty in the community for which I speak. Since the bone-dry law was passed men who, previous to that time, had been unable to support their families, have commenced to support their families, have become honorable in their business dealings and many have started bank accounts. These men are now taking pride in their honesty and are rapidly becoming really useful citizens. These things, while small, have a tremendous influence on the commercial and industrial development of the state when multiplied by the number of communities in which it is taking place throughout the state.

BURLINGTON, *Farmers Natl. Bank, J. A. Copple, Cashier*: The best thing that ever happened to the state.

BUHLER, *Buhler State Bank, H. A. Martens, Cashier*: History recites that there are more poor people, more low-classed, uncivilized, unrespectful, unbearable people, more families not cared for, especially in the bigger cities, where there is not Prohibition, than in states like Kansas where we have had Prohibition for many years. Industrially we must admit that a man of sound and sober mind, one that has his mind tied down to the question, "How will I make an honest and decent living in this world," is THE man for any country and that state-wide Prohibition has had its bearing in that respect.

CASTLETON, *State Bank of Castleton, Chas. Hornbaker, Pres.*: I am sure the policy of state-wide Prohibition has been beneficial in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas, because it has left dollars accumulate for useful purposes whereas otherwise they might have been spent in the saloon. My observation has been that saving deposits increase as soon as saloons are closed in any town.

CHANUTE, *Bank of Commerce, J. E. Ward, Cashier*: Our experience along this line is all too great a magnitude to attempt to reply at so short notice. Wish to say that the writer has been a resident of Kansas for the past thirty years or more and there is no question in our mind but that the state-wide Prohibition movement has been beneficial from every point of view. It would be possible if time permitted for me to continue on this subject for the next two or three hours, but suffice it, we think, to say that there has been no law placed upon our statute books that has been of as general good to the citizens of our state as this one.

CHAPMAN, *Chapman State Bank, A. J. Poor, Pres.*: I lived in Kansas before Prohibition went into effect and feel that I have a good idea of the benefit that has been derived by Prohibition. You ask if it has been a help in commercial and industrial developments. I want to say that it has. I know many men who, before Prohibition went into effect, were wasting their time and money at the saloons, and who since then have become good citizens, and many of them have become wealthy and are the best of citizens now.

From my own knowledge, I can see that there has been a very great improvement throughout the state by Prohibition.

CHENEY, *Cheney State Bank*: It has built homes instead of jails.

CHEROKEE, *First National Bank*, In a general way much money has been saved and used for legitimate commerce and industries that would otherwise have gone for liquor. The continued saving has had its effect on the welfare of our people.

HE CHANGED HIS MIND

CLIFTON, *First Natl. Bank, L. Pfister, Cashier*: I was born in Switzerland and came to Kansas when 19 years old in 1889. I was a user of liquor and thought Prohibition a crazy proposition. I soon became converted, however, seeing the good effects on the morals and financial condition of the people. I have now two boys and would consider it a great calamity if I had to raise them in a saloon state. Hope they will never know what a saloon or drunkard is.

CONCORDIA, *First Natl. Bank, F. J. Atwood, Pres.*: I have lived in Kansas for thirty-eight years. I came to the state before Prohibition and so have seen it both wet and dry. The benefits accruing from the Prohibition of intoxicating liquors are so many and great that I would not attempt to measure them. The fact that we have very few paupers and very few inmates in our jails may be the best arguments for the value of Prohibition to our people

COTTONWOOD FALLS, *Exchange Natl. Bank, E. B. Greene, Vice Pres.*: One might as well ask the average Kansan whether the elimination of tuberculosis would be a benefit to a state as to ask him the same question about intoxicants. Even a great many of our citizens who will drink the stuff when they can get it, say they would vote against the licensing of the traffic.

The reasons, of course, are simply those that lead the life insurance companies, the courts, the railroads and other large employers of labor, to condemn liquor because booze shortens a man's life, renders him much more susceptible to disease and injury, cuts down his efficiency, makes him waste his money, destroy other people's property, and become a public nuisance and public expense generally. We are improving the morals and efficiency of our citizens and saving a large amount of money that is worse than wasted in some states, and the result is inevitable.

DELPHOS, *State Bank of Delphos, J. W. Woodward, Pres.*: We believe that Prohibition in Kansas has been of great benefit to the commercial and industrial development of Kansas. Only a few around us, we find, spend their money for drink. We have been in business here in Delphos for twenty years and trusted to the amount of \$5,000 in some years, and on summing up we find we have not lost \$100 in all that time. The most of that was through men that drank.

DENISON, *Denison State Bank, C. P. Humphrey, Pres.*: I have lived in Kansas before we had Prohibition. Ever since I have seen land advance from \$5 to \$150 per acre. I have had dealings with drunk men and sober men and prefer the latter and would

say that I would have to think more of money than I do of my family before I would move into a state that did not have Prohibition. There is no argument against it to the man that has seen both.

DERBY, *Farmers and Merchants State Bank, J. J. Butterfield, Cashier*: It has purified the rural communities of the state, it has improved the financial condition of the individual and the community and consequently elevated the moral and intellectual status.

DEXTER, *Farmers & Merchants State Bank, W. R. Coffey, Cashier*: From my observation it has helped us in very nearly every line of business that we have here, and more especially since the absolute dry-bone law went into effect this year.

DOUGLASS, *State Bank of Douglass*: State-wide Prohibition has been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas, in increasing its bank deposits and loans through the savings of the people and their consequent improved financial and moral ability.

DOVER, *Dover State Bank, H. M. Phillips*: Prohibition in Kansas has prevented saloons from appearing in the small towns and villages, thus preventing crime and debauchery in rural districts. Consequently, the commercial interests have been benefited locally, and money spent in support of saloons has been diverted into useful channels.

YES, IN BIG LETTERS

ELLIS, *Ellis State Bank, J. W. Nicholson, Cashier*: Has the policy of state-wide Prohibition been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas, and to what extent? I say Yes in big letters. The bone-dry law perfected the movement.

ELMDALE, *Peoples Exchange Bank*: A man is better fitted for industrial and commercial activities in every way when free from the effects of liquor upon the system and the mind.

EUREKA, *Citizens Natl. Bank, O. H. Moore, Pres.*: State-wide Prohibition has been very beneficial to Kansas in a financial way.

EUREKA, *First Natl. Bank, William Johnston, Cashier*: It certainly has been helpful in this community and county for the reason that the men who do not use intoxicating liquors and patronize the saloons are in much better circumstances financially, morally and in every other way, and we have no saloons to tempt our boys and men in general, and we would not think of going back to open saloons again.

EUREKA, *Home Natl. Bank, Elwood Marshall, Cashier*: The desirable effects of Prohibition are best evidenced in a comparison of number of poor in Kansas and the number of poor people in any saloon state, taking into account total population of each state, also in a further comparison of the number of inmates of our penitentiary, reformatory, insane asylums, etc., as compared with number of inmates of similar institutions of saloon states. These are in my mind the direct effect of Prohibition and have a great bearing on the general conditions of the state at large and its industrial and commercial life.

FORT SCOTT, *Ft. Scott State Bank, F. H. Foster, Pres.*: From my observation and experience during a thirty-seven years' residence in Kansas—in fact, all the time since the Prohibition amendment was adopted—I am sure that the results flowing from the enforcement of the law have very largely contributed to the commercial and industrial development of the state.

A generation of young people have grown up in our state which are far, far above what they would have been had we had open saloons. In my mind, very large sums of money have been saved and gone into commercial and industrial development which would not have been saved had a condition of open saloons existed.

FOSTORIA, *State Bank of Fostoria, T. J. Poague, Cashier.*: As a community builder, as a missionary bringing good tidings with joy, happiness and prosperity, Prohibition exceeds them all.

FREDONIA, *Citizens State Bank, S. M. Newcomb, Pres.*: My observation has been that employee and employer are on an altogether different basis in Kansas. This is largely due to state-wide Prohibition. Employers have dependable labor that is contented and home builders.

WET REGIME LIKE A PRUSSIAN INVASION

GALVA, *Farmers State Bank, H. D. Paynter, Cashier.*: My good friend, what have you been drinking that makes you ask the question, "Has the policy of state-wide Prohibition been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas?" when you know as well as I know that Prohibition has been the very making of Kansas. I have lived in Kansas nineteen years and in that time I have not seen a half-dozen drunken men within her borders. An old boozier told me the other day that the bone-dry law had made it possible for him to get a grip on himself and rebuild his business that had gone to the bad. He is all right as long as he stays away from Missouri. The return of wet conditions would be about the same as a Prussian invasion. Kansas would not be Kansas unless it was dry.

GARNETT, *Citizens' State Bank, W. A. Parton, Cashier.*: We decidedly assure you that state-wide Prohibition has been of the greatest help in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas.

GLASCO, *Farmers State Bank, E. M. Sawhill, Cashier.*: Without the least question of doubt, state-wide Prohibition has been a great help to the commercial and industrial development of Kansas.

GOODLAND, *First National Bank, C. M. Millisack, Pres.*: During the first fifteen years of Goodland's existence she had one or two open saloons and gambling places continuously. Since the closing of those places there has been a noticeable decrease in drunkenness and rowdiness.

All citizens in the town and county are noticeably more prosperous and law-abiding. Those citizens who spent their money for drink now spend it towards building a home and home comforts, and keeping out of debt.

From a business viewpoint it has been continuously noticeable that the absence of saloons and the opportunity to spend money for

drink, a greater volume of business was transacted in the stores; a noticeable decrease in drunkenness and unpaid accounts. Prohibition appears to demonstrate that man can get along without alcoholic drinks.

GOVE, *Exchange State Bank, Geo. D. Royer, Cashier*: The benefits in my estimation are beyond my ability to express them. It has been my experience that in nearly every case where I have had business dealings with a whisky drinker, something has come about that has made the deal unpleasant and generally unprofitable. The absence of the saloon in Kansas has reduced very materially the whisky drinkers, but it took the bone-dry law to put the final touch to the whole matter. Prior to that more or less whisky found its way into the community, but there are lots of people who prior to the passage of that law were non-producers and in many cases an actual burden to others have since the passage of the law become producers, in other words have changed from loafers to producers.

GREAT BEND, *Citizens National Bank, E. R. Moses, Pres.*: I answer without any qualification whatsoever, Yes. It saves millions of dollars each year to the people; it has made better homes, happier inmates, better fed and better clothed. It has made business better, safer and more pleasant to transact. It has done away with the low, shiftless, irresponsible, dangerous element. It has placed the state and many counties out of debt. It has closed the door of many poorhouses and given to the people bank and saving accounts. It has made many of the saloonkeepers good farmers, mechanics, millers and merchants. It has built more churches and schools and lifted the standard of the church religion and morality higher than ever before. I say this from experience—I have lived in Kansas forty years—am actively engaged in merchandising and banking—have traveled much—have come in contact with the people and found no sentiment to go back to the saloon in part or whole.

GRIDLEY, *Gridley State Bank, J. R. Anspaugh, Cashier*: State-wide Prohibition in Kansas has taken our children from the streets and placed them in our schools and churches; has reduced the divorce evil; has made men instead of criminals out of many of our citizens; has shortened our criminal court docket; has torn down our poorhouses; has emptied our jails; will soon wreck our penitentiaries; has stabilized business and made happy homes.

HARTFORD, *Hartford Nat'l. Bank, C. A. Johnson, Pres.*: I know we have more depositors and money in the bank and that we send almost 100 per cent less money to Kansas City for liquor.

HAVENSVILLE, *First National Bank, S. H. Stockwell, Cashier*: I have lived in Kansas during open saloons, have lived here ever since. The policy of state-wide Prohibition has been beneficial in both commercial and industrial lines, as to what extent I am unable to say. It has been also beneficial in a moral, an educational, a spiritual, a patriotic and an economic sense; in fact, in every way.

HAYS CITY, *First National Bank, E. M. Speer, Pres.*: It

certainly has helped in happier homes, well-fed and well-clothed families. Many workingmen owning their own homes. Farmers attending to their farm duties better. Raising better stock, grain and feed and paying their bills and better still many have bank accounts which would otherwise be in hands of saloonkeepers. Our streets are full of children each day with happy, smiling faces, with good clothes and shoes and all taking advantage of the school and college privileges which will develop them into men and women to be proud of in the coming years, well qualified to pick up the reins where we drop them.

HERINGTON, *Bank of Herington, F. D. Carman, Pres.*: Helpful in a small degree. 'Because I consider that it has a tendency to prevent crimes leading to disturbance of peace, etc., whatever may be its effects on the moral character otherwise.

HERINGTON, *First Natl. Bank, C. E. Edlen, Pres.*: In the early years it reduced waste of energy and money. It reduced crime and physical degeneration. It took away temptation from youth and by education and comparison built up a general feeling of shame and disgust for the entire liquor business. In later years it has practically eliminated intoxicants from our state. The result is that the waste of rum has been turned into multiplying production.

Its misery, suffering, crime and degradation have been changed into happiness, comfort, and law-abiding men and women, proud of their Prohibition. The extent of the benefit of the industrial and commercial development of Kansas can not be measured.

HESSTON, *Hesston State Bank, Wm. Rapp*: If I have not been misinformed, Kansas has increased in value a greater per cent in the last 37 years than any other state in the Union. Then refer to Kansas City, Kansas, just across the line from Kansas City, Mo., and notice the difference in the increase in value per capita.

HIAWATHA, *Citizens State Bank, C. O. Dimmock, Pres.*: In my judgment the value of state-wide Prohibition cannot be over-estimated as a factor in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas. Without the degrading influence of the saloons we unquestionably have a stronger and more virile class of citizens, mentally, morally and physically, and of course the better type of citizen we have in any community, the better will be the commercial and industrial life of that community. A great many people in this community have expressed themselves to me that they would not live in a community that had saloons.

HIAWATHA, *First National Bank, W. R. Guill*: I well remember, when Kansas was a wet state, the drunkenness, cursing and abuse by the men under the influence of liquor that our children never see today.

Twenty-five years ago I moved to a small town in the northern part of Kansas, near the state line, and at that time this town had a saloon, or joint as we called them, to every ten men, business was good but after the joints were closed they found their mistake. The people who used to have to run book accounts year in and year out, in order to have money for their booze, which is always

cash, now have money to pay cash for the groceries and necessities of life and money to deposit.

I do not know a business man in that town today, who was there during the joints, that would go back to the joint period for any consideration. And a great many of these business men liked their booze as well as anyone and worked the hardest to hold the joints.

HILL CITY, *Graham County State Bank, L. Messick, Cashier*: It seems to me that it ought to be patent to everybody that people could not spend their money for liquor and also have the same money to spend for provisions and clothing and fuel for their families. Bank deposits and all lines of mercantile business have increased because of Prohibition in Kansas and additionally the families of those who otherwise would frequent the saloon are well dressed and have enough to eat. Besides this, the public expense to take care of and provide for criminals is very materially reduced, and this does not have anything to do with the great moral question which is also involved in the question of Prohibition. We are certainly for national Prohibition as well as for state-wide Prohibition.

HOLTON, *First Natl. Bank, J. Brown, Pres.*: I am not able to say to what extent. A blind man can feel the good effect of it.

HOPE, *Farmers State Bank, M. A. Anderson, Cashier*: The policy of state-wide Prohibition in Kansas has had a most wonderfully beneficial effect on the industrial and commercial development of the state. The millions of dollars that in saloon states are spent for liquor are here spent in the building of beautiful homes, in paving streets, and in the general development of the state. The banks and business houses are relieved of the risks and resulting losses that result from doing business with those addicted to the use of intoxicating drinks. The bank deposits compare favorably with those of any state and peace, prosperity and contentment prevails throughout the state. Kansas should be a sufficient argument to make every state adopt state-wide Prohibition laws.

HOPE, *State Bank of Hope, John M. Shetserund, Cashier*: I think Prohibition has been helpful in every way. In this community that am well acquainted with for thirty years made many a man a self-respecting, debt-paying man who had always been classed as down and out.

However, I am not like some, who lay the cause of all crime to drink, as we still have it and have it among people who were always bone-dry.

HORTON, *Bank of Horton, John W. Brownlee, Pres.*: The sobriety resulting from the abolition of the saloon from Kansas has made better credit risks of thousands of men. The absence of temptation to drink has allowed thousands of young men to grow to manhood equipped to enter business and industrial lines with a clear brain and a sound body. Millions of dollars have been directed to channels of usefulness which in the absence of Prohibition would have been worse than wasted. The recent years of

stringent enforcement of the law has convinced most of the outspoken opponents of the law that they were laboring under a delusion in advocating the sale of liquor.

HORTON, *Citizens State Bank, F. J. Henney, Cashier*: From our experience in comparing Texas towns and Kansas towns under the same business conditions, and from conversations between salesmen for different concerns operating in both Missouri wet and Kansas dry territory we would say there is no way of estimating the difference in business conditions. Commercial and industrial development is so far ahead in Kansas that we have given up comparison.

HUGOTON, *Citizens State Bank, E. W. Joslin, Pres.*: I am strong for Prohibition. I sincerely believe that the wonderful intellectual and commercial growth of our clean state is due to the fact that we have had state-wide Prohibition for 37 years. There is no doubt in my mind but what Prohibition keeps down vice and crime of all kinds.

A GREAT HELPING FACTOR

HUTCHINSON, *Central State Bank, J. C. Hopper, Pres.*: To my mind state-wide Prohibition has been a great helping factor in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas. Many reasons for this helpfulness might be given, among which we mention first: Drinking creates a desire to spend one's earnings and cultivates sporting tendencies. Sobriety is the reverse and cultivates the habit of business, thus increasing commercialism.

HUTCHINSON, *Exchange Bank, Fred W. Cooter, Pres.*: To your letter asking, "Has the policy of state-wide Prohibition been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas, and to what extent," I would say yes, from every possible viewpoint; moral, financial and physical.

INGALLS, *Farmers State Bank*: Yes.

IOLA, *Allan County State Bank, Thos. H. Bowlus, Pres.*: I can answer it very decidedly in the affirmative and there are so many reasons I would not attempt to enumerate them all. In a general way would say that Prohibition as it is now enforced in Kansas, has been one of the best and most helpful things for the citizens of the state that has ever taken place. Efficiency and industry have undoubtedly been brought to a much higher plane than existed prior to the rigid enforcement of the Prohibitory liquor laws. The thing that impresses me most is that when the young men reach the age they ordinarily have the opportunity to acquire the liquor habit the temptation is not placed before them and they soon reach the point, as their minds mature, where they recognize its evils and keep clear away from it. What wonderful satisfaction this must be to a mother in Kansas.

JUNCTION CITY, *Home State Bank, W. E. Muenzenmayer, Pres.*: The policy of state-wide Prohibition has been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas in that it has put everything upon a higher plane—farmers farm better, business is done on a fairer basis, politics are cleaner. It has put out of business a traffic ruinous in effect. Crime and all evils

directly traceable to the saloon, have decreased, and the morals correspondingly raised to a higher standard. Large sums of money wasted to prosecute criminals and in riotous living are now used on improvements, better homes, better roads, better family home life, etc.

KANSAS CITY, *Minnesota Avenue State Bank*: Helpful beyond any question.

LAKE CITY, *Lake State Bank, Dave Freemyer, Pres.*: I have been a resident of Kansas since 1882, and in my opinion NO LAW has ever been enacted, in any state, that was as beneficial as "Prohibition in Kansas" has been, both directly and indirectly, and it would be impossible for me to enumerate the benefits this state has derived therefrom.

LARNED, *First State Bank*: The quality of our citizenship, the intelligence of our people, their material worth and prosperity, the character of our farms, the class of our public improvements, our colleges and our churches, our ready response to every call of patriotism and duty, as well as our enormous bank deposits that evidence our prosperity and thrift, our total absence of poverty and paupers, our criminal class, the smallest percentage of the population of any state in the Union, all this we offer in evidence that answers your question with a YES that is today echoing from Maine to Los Angeles, from the sunlit waters of Florida straits to the golden, glimmering floods of rolling Oregon.

THE VOICE OF LAWRENCE

LAWRENCE, *Farmers State and Savings Bank, Geo. I. Kreeck, Pres.*: I know of no other force to which I could so gladly and honestly commend as the force of state-wide Prohibition as we have in Kansas.

There is not an aid or assistance to the commercial or industrial development of Kansas that does but speak of the help and benefits of Prohibition.

It has not only given us a state whose worth in dollars is far greater than could possibly be otherwise, but it has given us better men and women, cleaner homes and cities, young manhood, which the training camps has shown Kansas men physically par excellent.

Then I say that other laws upon our statute books might be repealed but the Prohibition law the last to be altered. I voice not only my personal sentiments, but the voice of the state as a whole, as to the merits, value and benefits of state-wide Prohibition.

LIBERAL, *First Natl. Bank*: Yes; 25 per cent.

LINDSBORG, *Commercial State Bank, G. E. Eberhart, Cashier*: There is only one answer, YES. The reasons are innumerable. Here are some of the chief ones: We are better housed, better clothed and better fed. We have better laborers, and therefore raise better crops and better stock. We have less privation, less suffering and less crime, and as a result we have fewer court trials, fewer prisoners and fewer jails. We have more happy homes, more love for our neighbor, and with all we live in closer communion with our God. There are many other reasons, but these are sufficient.

LONGFORD, *Citizens State Bank*: Sentiment here is gradually coming to this: People whose early education and environment caused them to oppose Prohibition are now slowly appreciating the fact that it is a good thing in every way, and would largely vote that way now.

MACKSVILLE, *Macksville State Bank, A. G. English, Pres.*: State-wide Prohibition has indeed been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas to a very large extent. I have been actively engaged in the banking business for some 25 years and have been in touch with our people, some of whom were addicted to the use of liquor and I have observed when they were without it they were clear-headed, good, thinking business men and have proven their fitness to better look after all business matters and have made material gains financially by reason of being sober-minded.

McLOUTH, *Bank of McLouth, William Stout, Pres.*: It is my opinion that the policy of state-wide Prohibition in Kansas has been of great value in the commercial and industrial development of our state since the date of its adoption 37 years ago. Prohibition has done more toward the building of homes and the uplift of our people than any other thing in Kansas.

McPHERSON, *People's State Bank, F. A. Vaniman, Pres.*: Thirty-five years ago when I lived in Illinois, I knew but little about Kansas and Kansas Prohibition. I was used to seeing saloons in the cities and towns. For a time our own town of Virden was dry, but later when the coal mines were developed saloons were again admitted, and today the better class of people prefer to live elsewhere.

I have lived in Kansas for twenty-six years,* and have seen great development since here. No saloons. Vice curtailed on every hand.

Many of our young men have never been inside of a saloon. As a result we have a type of young manhood that is hard to equal.

The death rate is at the minimum. Business efficiency is at the maximum. Men are sober and industrious.

As a result, the farmers are prosperous. Business is prosperous, and people are happy. No money could induce me to raise a family in a saloon town. Life is too short to have one's senses dulled by drink.

MELVERN, *Melvorn State Bank, F. U. Judd, Asst. Cashier*: While we never had a saloon in Melvern, yet the booze used to get in anyway, and since state-wide bone-dry policies have been in force we can see a vast difference in both commercial and industrial life, and I assume there are not five voters in Melvern (a town of 500) who would vote to have Kansas back to the old saloon days.

EMPTIED THE JAILS

MERRIAM, *Merriam State Bank, E. G. Bertberger, Pres.*: The policy of state-wide Prohibition was of doubtful benefit only so long and to such extent as the officers of the cities, counties and state were lukewarm or afraid to put it in operation. Dating from

the beginning of its sincere and thorough enforcement its benefits were in immediate, continuous and far-reaching.

Prohibition has emptied our jails, emptied and in some cases closed our poor farms, and cut down criminal court dockets by surprising percentages. Under Prohibition savings and other bank deposits have rapidly increased, building and loan associations have prospered and mortgages been paid off. Merchants' sales have steadily increased and credits have been safer. A higher average of morality and higher standard of clean-living prevails, more children go to school and more regularly. Under such conditions commercial and industrial developments are placed upon a more solid basis and sustained by higher ideals.

No one has been hurt by Prohibition in Kansas except the few who desire to profit by the wages of iniquity.

MOLINE, *Moline Natl. Bank, E. A. Chappin, Cashier*: The policy of state-wide Prohibition has been a success to the commercial and industrial development of Kansas, for the reason it is saving the state an immense amount of money each year for commercial use besides the greater and more important benefit of saving the moral character and youth of our great state. We rejoice that it is a success.

MOUND VALLEY, *Mound Valley State Bank, Frank Heulen, Cashier*: "Prohibition whose synonym is success" has been a great benefit to our state, both industrially and commercially, during the "saloon days," men spent the holidays and even Sundays carousing or in a drunken stupor, the bar getting the money that should have gone to their families and for the upbuilding of the community. And with the passing of the saloon and its allies, the dive, the bootlegger, the pigtrough, and the dance hall, came Prohibition, and later the bone-dry law, and now our town has no paupers and five-sixths of our families own their own homes. Our banks are full of money, and hardly a resident but what has a bank account, and "prosperity and happiness" are our distinguished guests.

NORTONVILLE, *Exchange State Bank, C. C. McCarthy, Pres.*: After being a resident of the state for forty years, engaged in commercial business and having served a few terms in the State Legislature, my opinion is, that our state has derived more benefit from the prohibitory law than from any other law on the statute book.

It has been the means of encouraging a better class of people to settle our broad domain, and placed us on the map, as among the most enterprising, progressive, and intellectual states in the Union.

NO POLICE EXPENSE NOW

NORWICH, *Norwich State Bank, N. I. Farris, Cashier*: It certainly has. More money on deposit in banks than ever before, better fed and clothed children, better schools and more activity in church circles. Scarcely any drunkenness, consequently no police expense. Money that formerly went for liquor now is being spent for food and clothes.

OBERLIN, *Oberlin National Bank, Otis L. Benton, Pres.:* The arguments in favor of state-wide Prohibition are so numerous and conclusive that I will not take the time to enumerate them.

As a native-born Kansan, who well remembers conditions in this state prior to 37 years ago, when state-wide Prohibition was adopted, and who has been in a position to observe improved conditions from year to year since that time, I can say that I am in favor of state-wide and national Prohibition more than ever.

I have two boys who were born in Oberlin, and never saw an open saloon or a public drinking place in the town or county in which they were born. Young people raised under these conditions very naturally have a better chance in life to become good, honorable citizens than those raised in a state where intoxicating liquors are a constant temptation.

OKETO, *Oketo State Bank, J. H. Moore, Cashier:* In our judgment the policy of state-wide Prohibition has been helpful beyond estimate in the commercial and industrial development of the state.

In this immediate vicinity we noticed particularly the increase in deposits as soon as the saloons were closed. There has been less crime, and less people in the county poor house.

We have been less free from liquors here than in other more fortunate parts of the state on account of our closeness to Nebraska. When Nebraska went dry a short time ago we have noticed a great change here. In fact we have been almost free from drunkenness since then and the improvement in the community has been great.

SOME STRIKING FACTS

OLATHE, *First National Bank, J. L. Pettyjohn, Pres.:* In 1880 we had 995,000 people, in 1916, we had 1,715,000 people. In 1880 we had 6,000 schools and no high schools, in 1916 we had 8,792 public schools, 85 high schools and graded schools. In 1880 we had 340,000 in our public schools, in 1916 we had in our public schools, high schools and graded schools 531,577 children. Total money paid out for teachers and buildings, etc., in 1916 was \$13,683,925. In 1916 we had in our state schools 15,000 pupils enrolled. For the support of these schools we paid out \$3,232,393. We had enrolled in 1916 in our denominational schools 7,000 pupils, for which we paid \$636,700. Total value of school property, \$31,168,702. This does not include schools in cities of the first and second classes, nor our colleges and universities, which would add many millions more to the above sum. The value of all farm products, horticulture, dairy, poultry, eggs, wool, etc., in 1916 was \$303,760,075. The value of Kansas live stock in 1916 was \$341,020,835. Grand total of all farm products and live stock in 1916, \$712,209,311, and in the west one-third of Kansas only a very small portion of the land is yet under cultivation and the population is very scattered.

The state banks of Kansas have a capital stock of \$22,300,000, a surplus of \$10,600,000. Our national banks have a capital stock of \$13,500,000 and a surplus of \$7,400,000. The total deposits in all our banks November 1, 1917, was \$368,000,000.

With more than twenty thousand miners in the state, a large per cent of whom are foreigners, we have the smallest per cent of illiteracy of any state in the Union, we have fewer convicts in our state penitentiary than any state in the Union, population considered. A large per cent of those convicts are there because of the work of Missouri whisky and beer.

We have one hundred and five counties in Kansas and more than one-half of those counties haven't a pauper within their borders. A large per cent of our county and city jails haven't a prisoner once a year.

FORMER LOAFERS NOW WORKING

ONEIDA, *State Bank of Oneida, H. L. Wikoff, Vice Pres.*: Prohibition has been beneficial to Kansas in every way. We have many young men nearing their majority who have never seen the inside of the saloon. Besides I could refer you to many men that stood to lose all that they possessed until the bone-dry law went into effect. Now they are working and saving their money. There is no possible thing to say in favor of the saloon. I have lived here when they had them and without them, and know that they are a curse to any nation.

OSAGE, *Citizens' State Bank, J. W. Laybourn, Pres.*: It has increased very largely the morality and financial condition of the laboring class and thereby added materially to bank deposits, mercantile business in all its branches and greatly improved the general welfare of the state and advanced the educational interests of the state until we now stand at or near the summit in that line.

OSBORNE, *Farmers Natl. Bank, C. B. Hahn, Pres.*: I heartily endorse nation-wide Prohibition. Good in Kansas. Go ahead.

OTTAWA, *First National Bank, F. J. Miller, Pres.*: One has only to look at the personnel of the citizenship of Kansas, its wealth, per capita and its low percentage of dependents, to know what Prohibition has done for Kansas.

TEMPTATION ELIMINATED

PAOLA, *Peoples Natl. Bank, Eugene P. Davis, Pres.*: State-wide Prohibition has removed a temptation from men who heeded the helpful influence when the law became effective, thirty-seven years ago, and kept from temptation those born since, both classes being free to lend greatest good in upbuilding a state which stands at the head of all the states in this Union.

PEABODY, *First Natl. Bank, Willis Westbrook, Pres.*: The policy of state-wide Prohibition has been very helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas in my judgment.

PITTSBURG, *Natl. Bank of Commerce, A. E. Maxwell, Pres.*: My impression has been that Prohibition in Kansas has been really helpful and beneficial to business as well as to the entire people, and I am thoroughly convinced that the absence of all kinds of liquor in the whole United States would be a great benefit.

While the closing down of distilleries and breweries may make financial loss to the owners and throw a number of people out of employment, I feel that these plants could be used, perhaps,

in some other manner, and that a great many of these people could be re-employed in the new plants, or find other employment, and while the law makes inconvenience for this small percentage of the population, it should not deprive the other large percentage of the benefits that would eventually accrue to all the people.

RANTOUL, *State Bank of Rantoul, W. S. Tulloss, Pres.*: The commercial, financial, educational, social and religious standing of the great state of Kansas as compared to other states of the nation are due to the fact that for the last 37 years we have had state-wide Prohibition. I am hopeful that the time will come and that very soon when we will have national Prohibition, which will assist us materially in putting on the lid still tighter here in Kansas. Count on us doing what we can toward that end.

WHAT HE SAW IN MISSOURI

ROSE HILL, *Rose Hill State Bank, James McCluggage, Pres.*: There are many people here who do not realize the value of state-wide Prohibition, because they have never seen anything else. I have always lived in Kansas under Prohibition except two years in Oklahoma under the territorial government. I will never forget the impression I had of open saloons when I landed there. It was not until I returned to Kansas that I fully appreciated our Kansas laws.

We have thousands of young people who never saw a saloon. I have a boy who never saw a saloon until a little over a year ago, we were on an auto trip through Iowa and Missouri, and he opened his eyes when we passed a saloon in front of which was a car of young people both girls and boys, drinking beer. Such sights are never seen here, and it was a sad sight to us, and I was glad to note that it impressed my son very vividly. He was only ten years old, but now he realizes the advantage of Prohibition fully.

RUSSELL, *Russell State Bank, M. K. Brundage, Cashier*: The policy, and what is more to the purposes—the actual application of state-wide Prohibition in Kansas during the many years it has been in practice, has unqualifiedly proved of inestimable value to the state and its people in every way.

Commercially, industrially, mentally, morally and socially the people of Kansas have profited by the state elimination of the liquor traffic. It is so plainly seen on every hand that it appears superfluous to reiterate the statement.

Families are better fed and clothed and merchants' credits are less and more promptly paid. Better business methods have resulted and the family and social life of our people has been raised to a higher standard.

RUSSELL SPRINGS, *Citizens State Bank, S. M. Jagger, Cashier*: It has been one of the greatest helps. As a result of the closed saloon our young men, especially, grow up reasonably free from the influence of liquor on their lives. The liquor interests being more or less conspicuous by their absence leave the state free from a good many baneful influences backed by the saloon

interests, and a great many other things that could be said against the saloon too numerous to mention, are very strong reasons for the views I have on the subject.

REECE, *State Bank, B. P. Smith, Cashier*: It has been helpful to a decided extent, especially since shipments into dry territory were barred. Men work better and women and children fare accordingly. Less gambling and more horse sense used. I have been on the water wagon 25 years. Lost hundreds of dollars because the other fellow drank.

ST. FRANCIS, *Cheyenne County State Bank, L. E. Comson, Pres.*: Yes, at least 50 per cent.

ST. GEORGE, *St. George State Bank, Frank Davis, Pres.*: The policy of state-wide Prohibition has been helpful in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas to a wonderful extent. I came to the state in 1866, when the saloon had full swing, and surely I had ample opportunity to know the state as it was then, and for a number of years after, as I have lived in the state ever since.

BRANDS THE WET LIAR

SALINA, *National Bank of America, Frank Hageman, Pres.*: I try to be reasonably tolerant of other people's views, but when I see a statement that "more liquor is sold in Kansas under Prohibition than before Prohibition went into effect," I know the maker of the statement is deliberately lying, or else has never lived in the state and is taking the word of some mouthpiece of the liquor interest. Prohibition is attaining yearly to a complete success.

SALINA, *Traders' State Bank, C. B. Kirtland, Pres.*: I came to Salina, Kansas, in the year of 1879, just before the adoption of the Prohibition amendment. I remember the conditions that existed then in Salina and Salina county, and in comparison with conditions that now exist in this same territory it is very evident that something has caused a great improvement. The abolishment of the saloon was evidently the basis of this improvement, as it stimulated the good people to furnish something to take the place of the saloon, such as the Y. M. C. A.'s, and other organizations which have been of great benefit to the young people during this period. Making the saloon and joint an outlaw had a tendency to make drinking unpopular and for that reason alone greatly reduced the sale of intoxicating liquors. There is no question but what it has been of great financial and moral benefit to the state, and why it should be necessary to produce any facts or figures to prove this contention is a mystery to me.

We have a family of seven children, not one of whom up to the age of twenty-one had ever seen an open saloon, and that fact alone seems to me would induce men with families to select a state with the Prohibition amendment in force in which to rear and educate their children.

SCOTT CITY, *Citizens State Bank, C. W. Dickhut, Pres.*: I am thoroughly convinced that the policy of state-wide Prohibition has been exceedingly helpful in the commercial and industrial development of the state, and as evidence cite the comparative absence

of almshouses, orphanages and paupers, the low percentage of crime and the average per capita wealth of the state.

SEDGWICK, *Sedgwick State Bank, C. A. Seaman, Pres.*: Prohibition has financially benefited Kansas at least to the extent of the intoxicating liquors that would otherwise have been consumed. It has given us for industrial development young men with clear brains and clean lives and there is no doubt but that to Prohibition is due the fact that today we stand the best fed, the best clothed, the best educated and the richest state per capita in the United States.

SPEARVILLE, *First Natl. Bank, Will L. Pine, Cashier*: Made the state better financially, morally, and every citizen has been made better, the community, state, nation and world have been helped just that much. We, the young men and women of Kansas who hate the sight of even the advertisements of "John Barley-corn," consider Prohibition one of our greatest blessings.

STERLING, *First Natl. Bank, T. J. English, Pres.*: In my opinion it has been of immense benefit to these interests, as it has been to all other interests. It seems to me that this statement needs no argument, certainly not with those who have lived in Kansas and have been willing to consider the matter fairly. The only people today who are contending to the contrary are either those interests who are in the manufacture and sale of intoxicants, or those habitual consumers who will listen to no argument except their own selfish desires. Kansas, however, never had a fair chance to realize the full benefit of Prohibition until the passage of the bone-dry law, before that time being subject to every interference that hostile and corrupt interests could devise, who, after coming as near as possible to debauching the state themselves, went out to herald the news that Prohibition was a failure in Kansas.

STOCKDALE, *Farmers State Bank, W. O. Gibbon, Cashier*: We feel that Prohibition is the only thing for Kansas and Kansas people, and what is good for Kansas is good for the whole nation. Crime is less, homes are better, bank deposits are larger and the whole material and moral condition of the state is better.

STOCKTON, *National State Bank, M. J. Coolbaugh, Pres.*: As one who lived here when the law was enacted, and having done business before and after, and am still in business, I can answer: It has made a great change for the better, in material things, and prosperity has been marvelous compared to conditions before the enactment of the law. That, however, is only a small part when we compare it to the change in the present generation of our men and women, and boys and girls, who are growing up without the damning influence caused by the sale and uses of liquors and intoxicants.

THAYER, *First National Bank, J. A. Alleman, Pres.*: Our town has better sidewalks, cleaner streets, less police force and greater prosperity since the saloons have been abolished.

About two weeks ago I met Judge Brown of our district court. I said to him, "Judge, how is court progressing?" He replied,

"Fine. We have dismissed the jury. We had only two criminal cases. Since booze has been driven out we have very few criminal cases. We used to devote several weeks to criminal cases each term."

A SUCCESS IN TOPEKA, TOO

TOPEKA, *State Savings Bank, Wm. Macferran, Pres.*: It must go without saying, that the Prohibition of anything destructive in its nature would benefit any state or community. We have a comparatively clean and intelligent citizenship in Kansas, due no doubt in some extent to the many booze fighters who had to leave it.

Opium comes in the same identical class, in my opinion, only it is more deadly and nobody is foolhardy enough to believe that the prohibition against it should be removed. I would be for Prohibition even though it had not been helpful to Kansas in a commercial and industrial way. Any drink that takes a man's reason and brutalizes his senses should not be tolerated even though it is a benefit commercially and industrially.

WAMEGO, *Kaw Valley State & Savings Bank, L. L. Parsons, Cashier*: We consider it one of the best things that the Kansas people have done.

WATHENA, *Farmers' State Bank, Aug. Miller, Pres.*: Having been a resident of Kansas 58 years of my 80 years of age I am in an excellent position to make the remarkable comparison, between saloon times and Prohibition times, of Kansas. And I gladly assure you that since Kansas has adopted the state-wide Prohibition no true Kansan need apologize for the moral, religious, educational, commercial and industrial advancement of this great state, and no one can deny that the remarkable progress in these lines are largely, if not entirely due to the elimination from our state that Demon Rum.

WELLSVILLE, *Peoples State Bank, H. A. Reed, Cashier*: Regarding the policy of state-wide Prohibition. Will say it means everything to us, situated in a small but very enterprising community, and have not been compelled to associate our business with the curse of the liquor traffic, only in a local way, which is very meager, comparative with the open door.

HOW IT IMPRESSES WICHITA

WICHITA, *Citizens State Bank, W. S. Hadley, Pres.*: I most heartily approve of the prohibitory law of the state of Kansas, and its beneficial results to me have been very clear. It has been one of the most important factors in the commercial and industrial development of Kansas. Money that would have gone into the saloons (had they existed in this state) has gone into legitimate channels of trade and this is one of the reasons why Kansas is and has been for several years one of the most prosperous states in the Union. Her people are the best educated, and the most energetic, and the most loyal of any people to be found anywhere, and it gives me great pleasure to give my approval to absolute Prohibition in any state.

WICHITA, *Kansas Natl. Bank, C. Q. Chandler, Pres.*: I think one of the strongest things to show the value of Prohibition in this state, in my own experience, is the fact of the very few young men in this state who go wrong as bank employees. I have been in the banking business here for 35 years, and it is a rare thing for a young man, or a man of any age in the banking business, to become an embezzler.

Of course, from commercial standpoint, it is a tremendous saving to us, when one considers that in the state of Kansas there is on expenditure of about \$2 per capita, whereas in our sister state, Missouri, there is about \$22. On the population of Kansas as compared with Missouri, we have a saving of 34 millions of dollars which would go out of this state for liquor, that does not go out now, but remains here for the comforts of our homes.

I have lived in the state for many years, and during my residence here I have traveled a great deal, and noticed the very great difference between this state, and those that have the saloons.

I think the prohibitory amendment, if submitted to Kansas, would carry by a three-fourths majority, if not 90 per cent.

WICHITA, *Security State Bank, Geo. W. Robinson, Pres.*: I never have seen a time since that I would want it repealed. It was the best thing that ever happened to the state of Kansas; it did more good for the state of Kansas than perhaps anything ever did; it saved many a man who was inclined to drink at all; it protected many a mother and children and has been a wonderful help in the commercial and industrial developments of Kansas to an extent impossible to say.

WICHITA, *Southwest State Bank, L. S. Naftzger, Pres.*: In our opinion the saloons are thoroughly eliminated from our city. There may be a little drug store business going on, but this is in a very limited way.

It has had the desired effect and our city is much more prosperous without saloons than with them. All the corners heretofore occupied by saloons are now occupied by banks.

HOW IT LOOKS TO WINFIELD

WINFIELD, *First Natl. Bank, W. C. Robinson, Pres.*: Have been in business here in Winfield since the 21st day of September, 1872, and my experience therefore in Winfield has covered quite a period of time, and a time when we had open saloons from 1872 to 1880, then we had joints for a number of years, and then we had "hootlegging," and we have had this evil in all forms, but I want to say to you that anything is better than open saloons. For a number of years we have had actual and absolute Prohibition, and I regard it a wonderful success, and I regard Prohibition one of the best if not the best movement that Kansas has ever had, and as an asset, it is conducive to good morals, kindness and every other element of character that makes for manhood. There is seldom a time that you see a man on our streets under the influence of liquor, and I don't know when I have seen an intoxicated man on our streets, and they never come into our bank to do business. For a number of years, in fact, as soon as Prohibition took effect,

I said that no man under the influence of liquor was able to do business properly, and I would tell a person coming into our bank to do business under that influence, that he was in no condition to do business, and I was justified in this by our community. When the open saloons prevailed, a banker or other business man would not be able to do this, fearing that he would be boycotted, but now in Kansas, we can take the position that no one under the influence of liquor is able to do business, and not fit to appear in social circles or entitled to recognition in such, and our entire community will uphold any such plan.

WINFIELD, *Winfield National Bank, James Lorton, Pres.*: We are pleased to state one way in which it has been helpful. It has reduced the number of convicts in the penitentiary and consequently reduced the expense of prosecution, also many counties of the state have not a single inmate in their county institutions, thereby saving the expense of keeping them, also the efficiency of men has been greatly improved, increasing their earning capacity, thus enabling them to more effectually meet their obligations.

WILSON, *Wilson State Bank, G. W. Fielder, Pres.*: Believe the state Prohibition for Kansas has been responsible for the wonderful development of the state to a greater extent than any other thing.

Believe the late bone-dry law has been a great benefit to the state. At the time the law was passed a good many of our people thought it was going to work a hardship on them, but now, after about nine months' trial, the people have found that they are just as well off and we hardly ever hear a complaint.

Several days ago we had a celebration at Ellsworth where over ten thousand people gathered, and a woman said she thought (?) she saw a drunk man. A few years ago she might have seen 500 of them without any trouble, and now she was in doubt as to whether the one was drunk or not.

Kansas Legislature Denounces Wet Lies About Kansas

On February 9, 1915, at a time when eastern brewery corporate tools were spreading abroad bogus statements regarding the operation of state-wide Prohibition in Kansas, the Kansas Senate, the House concurring, unanimously adopted the following joint resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 33, by Senator Kinkel—Concerning the welfare of Kansas under Prohibition.

Whereas, The liquor interests throughout the country, and those allied with them in their nefarious business, are publishing abroad in form of paid advertisements in the newspapers, certain false and defamatory statements to the effect that Prohibition in Kansas has caused increase in crime, death rate, homicide, suicides, divorces and juvenile delinquents; and,

Whereas, The saloon trust is making use of juggled statistics, falsehoods manufactured by criminal interests, allied to the alcohol venders and derogatory statements made by a few unreliable and irresponsible citizens of Kansas, all with the intention of creating prejudice in the minds of the Legislators of other states, and thus influencing proposed anti-liquor legislation; and,

Whereas, There is a lobby, the members of which profess to be Kansas men, operating in the Legislature of the state of Utah, and alleging that evil follows in the train of Prohibition, and that the enforcement of the prohibitory law in Kansas has resulted in multiplying crime, and deteriorating all the mental and moral faculties of the people of Kansas; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring therein, That all of such charges are libelous and false, and do but represent the sentiment of men who, when this state exiled the saloon, were compelled to leave Kansas for her good.

Resolved, That the reverse of these statements is true; that the state of Kansas is cleaner, better, more advanced in mental culture, and stronger in moral fiber and conviction; that her homes are happier and more comfortable, her children better educated than ever before in her history; that crime is less prevalent and poverty less general; and that all this is due largely to the fact that the saloon is such an outlaw that none of her school children have ever seen a saloon, and are unacquainted with the appearance of a saloonkeeper; and be it further

Resolved, That we, as representatives of the people of Kansas, hereby declare our allegiance to the cause of temperance, sobriety and right living, as exemplified by the ultimate result of constitutional Prohibition, and its enforcement in our midst, and that we are opposed to any return to the domination of intoxicating liquors, and that no proposition looking to a resubmission of the prohibitory amendment, and that no law which has for its object the re-establishment of places for the sale of liquor anywhere in Kansas will be given serious consideration, either by the Legislature or by any of its committees.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the journals of the House and Senate, and that the chief clerk of the House, and the secretary of the Senate, are directed to send certified copies of this resolution to all states of the Union which now have Legislatures convened and in session for the enactment of laws.

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(See Illustration Opposite Page)

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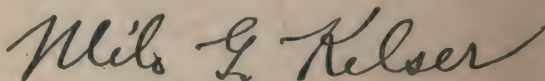
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